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Gorbachev assails Yeltsin

NEW YORK (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev accused populist Russian President Boris Yeltsin of abandoning socialist principles and of "betraying" Russia from its socialist roots. Gorbachev was speaking at a dinner during a debate on "sovereignty" or "independence" at the Soviet parliament in Moscow, the largest of the country's legislative bodies. The debate will be followed by election of the Russian president. Yeltsin, who has attacked Gorbachev for pursuing reform, was elected to the parliament Tuesday. He is standing for reelection but is thought to be a long shot against Russian Prime Minister Viktor Cernomyrdin, who has Gorbachev's backing. Gorbachev said Yeltsin's address was tantamount to "an appeal for a collapse of the union" under the cloak of "sovereignty" and that it was a recipe for catastrophe. "Yeltsin's speech" constituted an attempt to communicate Russia from socialism," Gorbachev said more than 1,000 delegates. "There was not a single Russian in the world who would support the words of the populist. For an hour, the words of the populist were the power of the Soviet Union, but now they are not. There are no boundaries, no boundaries."

Socialists condemn Israeli practices

CAIRO (Agencies) — Socialist International Wednesday condemned Israeli practices in the occupied territories and urged self-determination and withdrawal from the Palestinian territories. Shimon Peres, a former Israeli prime minister, reportedly objected to stronger versions of the resolution. He finally joined the consensus, the first time a ranking Israeli politician has accepted in a formal document the possibility of a Palestinian state. The resolution, accepted at the end of the council's semiannual meeting, also calls on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to amend its charter to guarantee the secure existence of Israel. Sources close to the deliberations told the Associated Press draft resolution was redrawn twice and debated three times before delegates Peres, head of Israel's Labour Party, was persuaded to go along. The Socialist resolution called for a halt in Israel's destruction of Palestinian homes in the occupied territories, and an end to expulsions, settler violence and brutality. "Jewish settlements in the occupied territories contravene U.N. resolutions and the Geneva conventions. They are illegal," it said.

Palestinians stage protest in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Palestinian protesters fought police at the door of the Israeli consulate as they tried to storm the building in a demonstration. Nine police officers and eight demonstrators were injured in the emotional melee Tuesday, according to police and hospital officials. Nine demonstrators were arrested, said Ed Burns, a police spokesman. "Free Palestine from murder" and "Stop killing Palestinian children" yelled some of the hundreds of Palestinians, including women and children, according to Said Elatab, a freelance photographer at the scene. Rotem said about a dozen employees were inside the building, including consul general Uri Savir. He said more than 300 demonstrators, mostly in their teens and 20s, yelled anti-Israeli slogans. The protesters, most of whom live in the New York area, said they were angered by Israeli government actions toward Palestinians, Elatab said. Some of them had family members who were killed or arrested as a result of recent violence in the occupied territories, he said.

Violence continues in Pakistani city

HYDERABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Snipers opened fire during a brief curfew break Wednesday, killing six people and wounding 27 on the ninth consecutive day of ethnic-related violence, police said. Authorities relaxed the curfew for two hours Wednesday afternoon to allow residents in Hyderabad, a city of three million, to buy food and return to their homes for a while, police said. About 10 minutes before the curfew was reimposed, snipers began shooting from rooftops throughout the city, police said. The victims included a young girl, they said. Indefinite curfews were imposed as violence spread. Security forces were ordered to shoot violators.

U.S., Iran end round of talks

THE HAGUE (R) — Iran and the United States Wednesday ended three days of talks on an \$11-billion claim by Tehran over U.S. military contracts broken after the 1979 Iranian revolution, a U.S. diplomat said. Neither U.S. nor Iranian officials would indicate if there had been progress in the talks. But they said a fresh round of negotiations between U.S. and Iranian officials would be held in a few weeks. The claim is the largest pending in the Iran-U.S. claims tribunal set up nine years ago in the Hague to determine who was left owing what after the two countries broke diplomatic ties after the revolution.

AMU launches contest for flag and anthem

TUNIS (R) — The Arab Maghrib Union (AMU) launched a contest Wednesday to design a flag and compose an anthem for the group linking Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. Contestants have until June 10 to submit ideas, according to a statement issued by the group's presidency currently held by Tunisia. The union, created in February last year at a summit in the north Moroccan city of Marrakech, is designed as an economic community.

Tunis police stop Palestinian protest

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian police stopped Palestinians from delivering protest against the killing of Arabs in the occupied territories to the British and French embassies in Tunis Wednesday. Witnesses said police agreed away a delegation of Palestinian workers, students and women unions as it neared the British embassy and had earlier ordered them away from French missions. The delegation had earlier succeeded in delivering the protest to the American embassy.

King briefed on Mubarak visits

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein was Wednesday briefed on the outcome of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's recent visits to Oman, China and the Soviet Union as well as his talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Mubarak's Political Advisor Osama Al Baz, who arrived here earlier in the day, briefed the King on the president's talks with the leaders of the countries which he visited recently, with particular focus on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Thatcher.

Jordan marks Independence Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Friday celebrates the 44th anniversary of its independence from Britain. Independence came on May 25, 1946, fulfilling one of the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt, which began early this century with the aim of liberating Arab countries from foreign domination. On the eve of the anniversary, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, issued a statement outlining Jordan's achievements in development and its efforts in the service of Arab causes on pan-Arab and international fronts under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

Security Council to hear Arafat in Geneva

Israelis bar Arab entry to Jerusalem, maintain curfew

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli barred Palestinians of the occupied West Bank from Jerusalem Wednesday while celebrating the seizure of the eastern half of the Holy City in 1967. Soldiers maintained a fourth day of curfew on the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The measure was an attempt to contain the widespread protests triggered by a massacre of eight Arab workers were Tel Aviv Sunday. In the protests since the slayings by a lone Israeli gunman, 22 Palestinians have died in clashes with soldiers. More than 800 others have been shot, beaten or suffered tear-gas inhalation. On Wednesday, two Palestinians were wounded in stone-throwing incidents, Arab reports said. Witnesses said security forces turned back workers from the West Bank, home to one million Palestinians, and the army kept a curfew throughout the occupied Gaza Strip except for the village of Be'er Hanoun. The army excluded the village because it said there was no tension there. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, addressing several thousand people at the Western Wall at the start of a Jerusalem day holiday Tuesday night, reasserted the "right" of Israelis to the "whole of Jerusalem."

U.S. message stirs trouble at Arab talks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Arab foreign ministers were deeply divided Wednesday over a U.S. State Department memorandum that urged Middle East leaders to offer new concessions to help advance the American-led peace process, sources said. An Iraqi official said the foreign ministers completed most of the agenda for an emergency Arab summit that opens here Monday. Saad Qassem Hammoudi, director-general of the Arab Department at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, also said that the foreign ministers discussed a draft letter the leaders plan to send to U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Hammoudi told reporters the ministers were to finalize the agenda at a closed-door meeting later Wednesday and that the letter would be submitted to the summit for endorsement. But conference sources said an argument had developed over the letter and a series of draft resolutions dealing with the Middle East situation. Iraq, which says Washington is in league with Israel against its military industrialization programme, Wednesday published the text of a letter from the U.S. administration in an apparent attempt to strengthen its hand against Arab moderates. The letter, sent to the Arab League and to Arab governments, asked Iraq to "moderate both its actions and its rhetoric" and said the other Arab states should try to persuade Baghdad there was no U.S.-led conspiracy to "bring down the Arab states."

Peaceful protests in several areas; Hittin normal after violence

Calm takes hold in most troublespots

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Scattered anti-Israeli demonstrations were reported in refugee camps in and near Amman Wednesday, but calm generally took hold in most troublespots where protests sparked by Israeli actions in the occupied territories had led to violent clashes with security police Monday and Tuesday. Parliament members, leftist groups, the Muslim Brotherhood party, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and other popular organisations added to earlier appeals for calm and peaceful demonstrations issued by the government and the legislative body. In most camps in and around the capital as well as other parts of the Kingdom, security forces "did not have to intervene to disperse the marchers Wednesday since almost all of them were peaceful and none of the protesters resorted to violence," a senior police source told the Jordan Times. However, violent clashes were later reported from the Hittin camp, about 20

kilometres northeast of Amman, where demonstrators attacked public buildings. A reporter from the scene said at least two people were killed in Wednesday, raising the toll in the camp to three since Monday. Only one of Wednesday's deaths was officially confirmed by police. Another fatality, occurred Tuesday, was caused by "gunfire from a weapon not used by police," an official statement said. Calm was restored to the camp late Wednesday after intervention by at least five Parliament members — Leith Shbeilat, Basam Haddadin, Mohammad Al Haj, Deeb Anis and Ziad Mahfouz, the reporter telephoned from Hittin. The deputies as well as leaders of the camp appealed to residents to remain calm and refrain from resorting to violence, he said. The police source in Amman confirmed that arrests were made of several people who had attacked and damaged public property, including cars, in various areas but all had been released by Wednesday afternoon. The source refused to comment on reports that "several organised groups" were behind the violent flare-ups Monday and Tuesday. Small groups of demonstrators,

mostly schoolchildren and young boys and girls, staged protest rallies in several camps bedecked with black flags in mourning for Palestinians killed in the occupied territories, and a group of about 200 protesters were dispersed at the Ministry of Interior Circle Wednesday noon. In Beqaa camp, half a dozen marches, each involving less than 50 to 60 children, were staged, but there was no repetition of the violence which wracked the shantytown of 80,000 residents in the last two days. Alert riot police kept vigil at the main entrance to the camp but did not intervene in any of Wednesday's rallies, witnesses reported. Balqa Governor Faleh Garabeh visited the camp and reviewed the situation, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. Protest rallies held by students in Amman's Al Hussein and Al Wihdat camps proceeded peacefully. Shortly after the protest march was dispersed at the Ministry of Interior Circle, a large group of mostly women and schoolgirls in uniforms staged a rally through the streets of the camp shouting anti-Israeli slogans and carrying Jordanian and Palestinian flags as well as black flags. A woman fully clad in black cloth and a veil led the march with chants of "Allahu Akbar" and "With our blood and soul we will redeem our martyrs." Children ranging from five to 15 took part in the rally, which dispersed peacefully after about one

hour. In Irbid, where a 14-year-old boy was killed in clashes Tuesday, normalcy was reported after the boy's family buried him in the same grave as his grandfather in the early hours of Wednesday. Schools and universities in the northern town resumed normal activities and most students were back in their classes, witnesses said. Police were on full alert at Russeifa, where a group said to number several hundred staged a demonstration Tuesday night and went on a rampage and attacked at least three restaurants and burned down one of them after "taking away its stock of alcohol," sources said. But no violent incidents were reported Wednesday. In the city of Zarqa, several peaceful demonstrations were staged Wednesday with no intervention from security forces. However, two breweries situated near the entrance of the city of 450,000 residents were attacked by demonstrators Tuesday night, according to official and other sources. One of the breweries was slightly damaged but the other sustained greater damage to its facilities. Zarqa Deputy Basam Haddadin told the Jordan Times that a man, Mohammad Gazzawi, was killed when riot police opened fire to disperse the crowd. The Petra news agency and Jordan

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U.S. said ready to take more Soviets

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. President George Bush told Egyptian leader Hosni Mubarak Wednesday that the United States was taking steps to open its doors to Soviet Jews immigrants, an Egyptian presidential spokesman said. "Bush conveyed during his (telephone) conversation... the message that the United States was making arrangements to open its doors to Soviet Jews," Mohammad Abdul Monem, head of information at the Egyptian presidency, told Reuters. Arab anger is running high over a massive influx of Soviet Jews to Israel, while the United States — often their first choice — has imposed a strict quota on the migrants. Some 35,000 Soviet Jews have arrived in Israel so far this year and the Israeli authorities expect a total of 150,000 by the end of 1990. Arab leaders are holding an emergency summit to discuss the issue next week in Baghdad after widespread Arab alarm that besides reinforcing the Jewish state the immigrants may displace Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Unrest attributed to several factors


By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A combination of factors, prominent among them frustration over Arab inaction towards the Palestinian intifada and misguided views as well as extremist tendencies and external influence, was blamed by several members of Parliament Wednesday for the two days of violence which hit refugee camps and other areas in Jordan Monday and Tuesday. Interviewed by the Jordan Times, deputies expressed the opinion that most of those who took part in violent protests did not belong to any organised group. "They are very young but they come in big numbers," said one deputy who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity. He attributed several factors for the unrest, including "the intifada and the inaction of Arabs, internal problems such as economic hardship and unemployment, and influence from outside forces which stand to gain from creating instability in the Kingdom."

Israel accuses U.S. of perpetuating violence

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel indirectly accused the United States Wednesday of perpetuating violence in the occupied territories in a further sign of worsening relations between the Jewish state and its guardian superpower. President George Bush Tuesday linked the latest wave of violence, in which at least 22 Palestinians and one Israeli have been killed, to the absence of progress towards Middle East peace, implicitly blaming Israeli intransigence. In an official statement, the Israeli foreign ministry said: "Linking the violence to the peace process is liable to be seen by certain groups as a reason to continue the violence in the hope of attaining their ends." The statement said there was no connection between the peace process and the bloodshed triggered by the mass killing of Arab workers last Sunday by an Israeli gunman. In a unusual move, Bush extended personal condolences to the families of Sunday's victims and urged Israeli troops "to act with maximum res-

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takes pleasure in conveying to
HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN

and to the
PEOPLE OF JORDAN

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Palestinians blame Israeli policies for massacre, protests

TEL AVIV (AP) — Palestinian leaders say the hard-line policies of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir have created an atmosphere of hatred that incites anti-Arab extremism, such as last weekend's slaying of seven Palestinian workers by an Israeli.

They charge that Israel's "iron fist" handling of the 29-month Palestinian uprising and its failure to launch peace talks have increased anti-Arab sentiments. Israelis who attack Palestinians face lenient punishment, they add.

"There is no doubt that the Israeli government led by Shamir ... leads to such catastrophe," pro-PLO leader Faisal Hussein told the Associated Press. "The atmosphere created by such a government is responsible."

But Shamir and his supporters argue that Sunday's incident was the act of a deranged man. They also accuse Palestinians of using the massacre to rekindle the flagging rebellion against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Anyone wishing to see in this mad murder an expression of Israeli government policy and intentions is maliciously and viciously distorting the picture," Shamir told parliament members from his right-wing Likud Bloc at a meeting Tuesday.

He pledged that his government would pursue peace efforts

in the Middle East but added: "We don't want to live by our sword, but we shall not be quick in throwing it out as long as it allows us to live in security."

Shamir has headed a caretaker government since Likud's coalition with the dovish Labour Party collapsed on March 15 over Labour's stance on land-for-peace negotiations with the Palestinians. Shamir and his supporters oppose any compromise on territory.

Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's deputy foreign minister, said in an interview that the U.S. State Department's call for restraint in handling Palestinian protests that have followed the massacre was "understandable but unwarranted."

"I think the U.S. government and American people understand that this was a tragedy we had nothing to do with and that we are doing everything we can to restore tranquility," Netanyahu said.

He accused the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and other Palestinian groups of "fanning the flames and sustaining the

violence." Thirteen Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops in three days of protests, most in the occupied Gaza Strip. More than 800 others have been injured.

Their deaths raised to 708 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians since the start of the uprising in December 1987.

Ami Popper, 21, a cashiered Israeli army soldier, has been arrested for Sunday's fatal shooting of seven Gaza workers in Rishon LeZion near Tel Aviv. He has been ordered by an Israeli court to undergo psychiatric observation.

Saeed Kanaan, a leading PLO businessman from the West Bank, said that the violence that has followed the Rishon LeZion killings was not orchestrated by Palestinian leaders.

"It is a spontaneous reaction, and I fear there will be an escalation once curfews are lifted," Kanaan said.

He criticised the government for "a total stalemate in the peace process" and accused Shamir's Likud and other right-wing parties of "creating an atmosphere of hatred, of segregation" between Jews and Arabs.

"Until now, Israeli policy makers are still threatening to intensify measures against Palestinians, more 'iron fist' policy," Kanaan said. "It seems they ha-

ven't learned that enough is enough and people will not tolerate this arrogance in the future. They will hit back."

Other Palestinians have been skeptical about Israeli expressions of regret over Sunday's incident.

"Condemnations from politicians aren't enough," Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij told Israel Radio. "What is needed are jail sentences for people who commit such crimes against Arabs."

Israel's performance in pursuing anti-Arab assault cases has been mixed, according to the Israeli human rights group B'tselem.

Of the 35 cases of Palestinians killed by Israeli civilians since the start of the uprising, only five have resulted in indictments, trials or sentences, B'tselem says.

The stiffest sentence for murder has been three years in prison, B'tselem says. Palestinians convicted of murder almost always get life sentences and their homes are demolished.

The independent Hebrew daily Hadashot, in an editorial published Tuesday, criticised Israel's leniency in cases involving Israeli attacks on Arabs and called for a "change in the direction of our political thinking."

It continued: "We have run out of time. Already, on a clear day, you can see Beirut from Rishon LeZion."

EC calls for Israeli restraint

DUBLIN (Agencies) — The 12 European Community (EC) states Wednesday urged Israel to exercise utmost restraint in the occupied Arab territories.

At least 20 Palestinians have died and 800 Arabs have been wounded in three days of bloodshed that started Sunday with the killing of seven Arab workers from the occupied Gaza Strip by an Israeli man described as "deranged."

"The twelve earnestly appeal for calm. They call on the Israeli authorities to exercise the utmost restraint. They are also concerned at the risk that the violence might spread," the EC governments said in a statement released in Ireland, current president of the EC.

The statement blamed the violence in the occupied Arab territories on lack of progress toward a peace settlement.

"It underlines, in their view, the imperative of resuming the peace process in a meaningful way at a very early date."

The 12-member states said they were "shocked and saddened by the violence which has left at least 18 Palestinian dead and hundreds injured in Rishon LeZion and the occupied territories since May 20."

They expressed their sympathy to families and friends of the victims.

They said they were very seriously concerned with the deadly Israeli response to demonstrations after the massacre and raised again the question of the "use of excessive force to put down demonstrations."

They saw "the latest upsurge of violence as symptomatic of the fragility of the situation in the occupied territories in the absence of any significant prospect of progress towards a settlement."

"In their contact with both sides, the twelve will, on the basis of the principles which they have enunciated in the Declarations of Venice (1980), Madrid and Strasbourg (1989), do all they can to promote significant steps in the direction of a comprehensive settlement. They will also be trying to prevent any further hardening of attitudes which could compromise that objective," the statement said.

The EC said Tuesday it plans to give fresh emergency aid for Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories at the request of a United Nations agency.

EC Development Commissioner Abel Matutes said the request came from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the near east (UNRWA).

The aid would be in addition to a \$100-million, three-year agreement the EC signed with UNRWA on April 24.

Separately, Matutes proposed tripling EC aid to eight Mediterranean nations that benefit now from a five-year, financial aid programme of 615 million European Currency Units (\$756 million).

The current programme benefits Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia and expires at the end of 1991. Boosting aid to these countries was a "political signal of the highest importance," Matutes said.

"The EC cannot allow the gap with the Mediterranean to grow ... it must keep a balance in its foreign policies between the countries east of it and south of it."

In Rome, the Italian government Monday condemned the harsh repression of the Israeli authorities who "once more did not hesitate to use fire-arms during the spontaneous Palestinian demonstrations."

"Those episodes, which lengthen the painful list of innocent victims of violence, confirm that the conditions in the occupied territories are unbearable and should be promptly solved in a global peace process based on the right of existence and security of all the states in the region and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people," an Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Canada deplores violence In Ottawa, Foreign Minister Joe Clark has expressed Canada's shock at the unprecedented violence in the Israeli-occupied territories, "following the brutal murder of seven Palestinians on May 20."

"We deplore this tragic incident and the deaths and injuries which occurred in its wake in the occupied territories and Israel," Clark said. "The large number of civilians injured by live fire from Israeli forces is of particular concern. Canada appeals to the Israeli authorities to demonstrate maximum restraint."

Clark called on both sides to cease further confrontations and to avoid acts which will contribute to the dangerous cycle of violence.

Clark underlined that Canada is extremely concerned about the tense political environment in which the massacre in Gaza and the subsequent deaths and casualties took place.

"The existing stalemate in the peace process exacerbates the frustrations of those in the occupied territories and Israel who want to believe that a negotiated settlement is possible, and contributes to a volatile atmosphere."

He reiterated Canada's hope for an early start to an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, which is the preferred route to a just, comprehensive and lasting peace settlement in the Middle East.

ILO expresses shock In Geneva, the head of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) told Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in a message Wednesday that he was shocked at the latest outburst of violence in Israel and the occupied territories and appealed to him to ensure protection of Palestinian workers.

"I wish to express my profound shock and sadness at these events which have resulted in numerous deaths of Palestinian workers and even more numerous injuries," ILO Director-General Michel Hansenne said in his message.

He conveyed his "deep concern at a situation which is still characterised by a regime of military occupation," and urged Shamir to make sure that the Palestinian workers "are able to exercise their rights in an atmosphere that is free from the violence to which they have recently been exposed."

Iran urges Arabs to ban oil sales to West Iran's parliamentary speaker Mehdi Karubi said Wednesday Arab leaders due to meet in Baghdad next week should agree to stop oil sales to the West to back the Palestinian cause.

"If the Arabs want to do something for the oppressed Palestinian nation, they should emphasise the struggle against Israel and boycotting oil sales to the West, which backs Israel, in the (summit's) resolution," Tehran Radio quoted Karubi as saying, at a meeting with university students.

Iran exports oil to many Western countries except the United States, which banned Tehran oil after naval clashes in the Gulf in 1987.

Rebels continue rocket attacks on Kabul

KABUL (R) — U.S.-backed rebels bombed the Afghan capital, Kabul, with rockets Wednesday but the airport reopened despite the missile attacks.

"There were eight or nine rockets this morning outside the airport," an airport spokesman said.

At lunchtime, witnesses saw one landed near the airport, throwing up a huge cloud of dust, as a steady stream of Soviet transport planes came and went.

Mujahideen rebels have stepped up their rocket attacks on Kabul in recent days ahead of the grand tribal assembly here later this week, which is expected to endorse constitutional changes by the Soviet-backed regime of President Najibullah.

The two sides have been locked in civil war for 12 years.

"I wish the Loya Jirga (tribal assembly) was today, then tomorrow there would be no more rockets," said one Afghan.

On Tuesday, the airport was closed to commercial flights after at least 13 rockets landed there wounding two workers and narrowly missing a United Nations high aircraft.

There were unconfirmed reports of another 20 rockets hitting the city Tuesday.

Two people were killed Wednesday and another was seriously injured after two rockets landed in the grounds of the city's major hotel, the Intercontinental, which is now largely empty.

A hotel worker said one victim had been killed after he went outside to see where two rockets had landed.

Near the Defence Ministry, a witness heard a cluster rocket explode.

These rockets, which the government says were made by the United States after a Geneva agreement banned them, carry mines, some of which exploded about 20 metres in the air spewing out metal fragments while the others fell to the ground waiting to be detonated by contact.

It was not clear if anyone had been injured by the cluster rocket.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan-based Afghan rebel government said Tuesday it would begin elections next month for a traditional grand council to choose a new government ready to take power in Kabul.

The elections to the 2,500-member council or Loya jirga will take two months, the rebel government's top election official, Sayed Ahmad Gailani, told a news conference.

The vote will be held in rebel-controlled areas of Afghanistan and Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran.

Gailani said all six guerrilla parties in the Afghan interim government would take part.

Previous election plans were held up by differences among the rebel parties fighting the Soviet-backed government in Kabul. One party, Hezb-i-Islami of radical guerrilla leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, left the interim government last year.

A guerrilla coalition backed by Hekmatyar held its own rival elections for a provincial council last February in the eastern Afghan province of Kunar.

Israeli parliament approves \$20.5m for settlements in Arab territories

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli parliament finance committee said Tuesday they approved a \$20.5-million supplement (\$20.5 million) to develop Jewish settlements in the occupied territories at the request of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The decision came Monday after a plea from Shamir, who asked the committee in a letter to allocate the funds to the Housing Ministry. A copy of Shamir's letter was obtained by the Associated Press.

"I ask you to pass an allocation of \$20.5 million to the Housing Ministry for settlements and roads beyond the green line," it said in reference to a line dividing Israel from the territories it occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Two new settlements established by Shamir's caretaker government have already sparked protests from the United States, which says settlements in the occupied Arab areas are an obstacle to peacekeeping.

Government officials insisted that the money approved by the finance committee would not be used to form new Jewish presence in the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip.

"We are talking about already

existing settlements, not forming new ones," Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner said.

However, the sum included 5 million shekels (\$2.5 million) to "strengthen new settlements" and 6 million shekels (\$3 million) for "developing and expanding" already existing settlements.

A separate sum of 5 million shekels was allocated to purchase prefabricated houses and strengthen settlements in the West Bank.

Other projects mentioned in Shamir's letter included public construction in the annexed Golan Heights and road construction.

Committee member and left-wing legislator Shulamit Aloni condemned the decision.

"This decision was passed by a completely insane system at a time of political unrest, provoking the United States to a point of endangering political and economic support and provoking the Soviet Union to a point of endangering the immigration," Aloni said in a statement.

A report by an Israeli diplomat in Washington released Tuesday in the daily Haaretz supported Aloni's claims. The report said eroding U.S.-Israeli relations en-

dangered immigration to Israel and pointed to the government's settlement policy as a major cause of the deterioration.

Yoram Ettinger, aide to Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, said the U.S. Congress appeared less motivated to maintain strategic cooperation with Israel and more inclined to support Palestinians in their struggle for statehood, Haaretz said.

Ariel Weinstein, who represents Shamir's right-wing Likud Bloc on the finance committee, said the government decided on a policy of settling the occupied territories and they should be treated as any other Israeli town.

"Every settlement was founded by government decision and not in a partisan manner," he said. "They need new roads, schools. Nobody thinks the government can decide not to fulfill these needs," Weinstein said.

The Arab states see any settlement move as an attempt to push out Palestinians.

As the Soviet Jewish immigrants pour in, Palestinian anxiety over the occupied territories has increased.

Polling stations close in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — Polling stations closed in Syria Wednesday after a large turn out in lively general elections with 9,000 candidates competing for 250 parliament seats.

Officials said counting of votes began immediately after the ballots closed at 2 p.m. (1100 GMT). Voting started Tuesday.

Interior Minister Mohammad Harba is expected to announce the final results at a news conference Friday.

Election officials said most of the six and a half million eligible voters went to the polls after the most vigorous campaign in over 20 years of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's rule.

Assad issued a decree in April increasing the number of seats in parliament from 195 to 250 and giving independents at least one third of the seats for the first time in two decades.

Independents are guaranteed 84 seats and could also win others contested by the National Progressive Front (NPF) led by the ruling Baath Party and grouping five other parties.

The NPF has named only 166 candidates.

Diplomats said a wider presence of independents in the new parliament would mean that most shades of Syrian opinion would be represented for the first time in Assad's rule.

Independents were allocated 33 seats in the last election in 1986.

There are no parties in Syria other than the NPF six — Baath, Communist, Socialist Union, Socialist Unionist, Arab Socialist and Democratic Arab Socialist Parties.

Sudan rebels announce bombardment of town

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Southern rebels have announced a five-day bombardment of a major government-controlled town on the White Nile River and urged residents to evacuate.

The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said in a clandestine broadcast the bombardment of army barracks began May 18 in Malakal, 640 kilometres south of Sudan's capital, Khartoum.

"Citizens living in town and near army barracks must evacu-

ate Malakal to avoid being caught in the cross fire. We are serious," the broadcast said.

It was monitored in Kenya's capital, Nairobi, but there was no independent confirmation.

Malakal lies on the east side of the river, a major route for barges and steamers to and from southern Sudan where the rebels are waging a 7-year-old bush war.

The broadcast made no mention of casualties or damage. It also did not identify the types of

weapons used in the bombardment. In the past the rebels are known to have used mortars.

On May 11, the rebels claimed control of the river traffic following the capture of Melut, 130 kilometres north of Malakal. The government said four days later the troops had made a "tactical withdrawal."

Unlike Melut, which can be bypassed overland, Malakal sits on the only major north-south road in the region.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

| JORDAN TELEVISION | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Tel: 773111-19 | |
| PROGRAMME ONE | |
| 15:30 | Koran |
| 15:45 | Programme review |
| 15:55 | Children programme |
| 16:10 | News for the Deaf |
| 16:20 | Religious programme |
| 16:30 | Health programme |
| 16:40 | Programme review |
| 16:50 | News in Arabic |
| 17:00 | Local series |
| 17:10 | Programme review |
| 17:20 | Local programme |
| 17:30 | Arabic film |
| 17:40 | News in Arabic |
| PROGRAMME TWO | |
| 17:45 | Mollerism |
| 18:10 | Des Chiffres et de lettres |
| 18:20 | La Chance aux chameaux |
| 18:30 | News in French |
| 18:45 | Varieties |
| 18:55 | Varieties |
| 19:05 | Varieties |
| 19:15 | News in Arabic |
| 19:25 | Bill Cosby Show |
| 19:35 | News in Hebrew |
| 19:45 | News in English |
| 20:00 | Feature film: "The Grasscutters" |
| PRAYER TIMES | |
| 05:55 | Fajr |
| 06:25 | (Sunrise) Dhuha |
| 12:35 | Dhuhr |
| 16:15 | 'Asr |
| 19:35 | Maghreb |
| 21:07 | Isha |
| CHURCHES | |
| St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish Tel. 810740 | |
| Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785 | |
| St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590 | |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440 | |
| De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 | |
| Terrence Church Tel. 622566 | |
| Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541 | |
| Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 711531 | |
| Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 628543 | |
| Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 715261 | |
| St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751 | |
| Armenian International Church Tel. 827981, 685326 | |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295 | |
| The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932 | |
| WEATHER | |
| Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. | |
| It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly fresh and seas calm. | |
| Min./max. temp. | |
| Amman | 13 / 28 |
| Agaba | 20 / 25 |
| Deserts | 14 / 32 |
| Jordan Valley | 18 / 34 |
| Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Agaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 43 per cent, Agaba 22 per cent. | |
| USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS | |
| NIGHT DUTY | |

| EMERGENCIES | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Civil Defence Department | 661111 |
| Civil Defence Immediate | 661111 |
| Rescue | 630341 |
| Civil Defence Emergency | 193 |
| Rescue Police | 192, 681111, 637777 |
| Fire Brigade | 891228 |
| Blood Bank | 771521 |
| Highway Police | 243402 |
| Traffic Police | 890900 |
| Public Security Department | 630321 |
| Hotel Complaints | 602800 |
| Price Complaints | 661176 |
| Water and Sewerage | 661176 |
| Complaints | 897467 |

| HOSPITALS | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| AMMAN: | |
| Hussein Medical Centre | 813813/92 |
| Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. | 642816 |
| Akheh Maternity, J. Amn. | 642816 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity | 642816 |
| Malhas, J. Amman | 636140 |
| Palestine, Shamsi | 6641714 |
| Shamsi Hospital | 669121 |
| University Hospital | 845845 |
| Al-Maqdhar Hospital | 667227/9 |
| The Islamic, Abdali | 666127/77 |
| Al-Ahli, Abdali | 6641646 |
| Italian, Al-Muhajir | 7710123 |
| Al-Badli, J. Amman | 7751126 |
| Army, Marja | 891611/5 |
| Queen Alia Hospital | 602240/50 |
| Amal Hospital | 674155 |
| ZARQA: | |
| Complaints | 897467 |

| FOR THE TRAVELLER | |
|--|-----------------------|
| QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT | |
| This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)5320-5, where it should always be verified. | |
| ARRIVALS | |
| Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) | |
| 09:30 | Dhahran (RJ) |
| 10:15 | Riyadh (RJ) |
| 10:30 | New Delhi (RJ) |
| 10:45 | Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 10:55 | Doha, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 11:00 | Kuwait (RJ) |
| 11:15 | Cairo, Egypt (RJ) |
| 11:30 | London (RJ) |
| 11:45 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 12:15 | Damascus (RJ) |
| 12:30 | Jeddah (RJ) |

| DEPARTURES | |
|---|---------------------|
| Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) | |
| 08:30 | Agaba (RJ) |
| 11:45 | Rabat (RJ) |
| 12:30 | London (RJ) |
| 13:15 | Tunis, Paris (RJ) |
| 13:30 | Lausanne (RJ) |
| 13:45 | Cairo (RJ) |
| 14:00 | Baghdad (RJ) |
| 20:00 | Kuwait (RJ) |
| 21:00 | Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 21:20 | Dubai, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 22:15 | Dubai, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 22:15 | Damascus (RJ) |
| 22:15 | Jeddah (RJ) |

JESORS markets Jordan River water successfully

By Iva Widdish
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — It was the initiative of a Jordanian water expert to London who saw a "wild" bottled "Jordan water" that gave rise to the idea of mass export of water from the River Jordan to the Christian faithful around the world.

Now, four years and hundreds of thousands of bottles later, the organization which picked up on the London visitor's idea is not looking back, with export orders of an average of 50,000 to 60,000 bottles a month from Europe and the United States, bringing in about \$60,000 to \$75,000 a month in much needed foreign currency.

The Jordan Economic and Social Organisation of Retired Servicemen (JESORS), which says it aims more at offering employment opportunities to retired armed forces and security personnel than making profit, has set up a separate wing for the bottling operation.

The bottling process at a farm owned by JESORS mostly involves manual work except for a few mechanized stages—filtering the water and washing and filling the bottles—according to Ahmad Qasem, JESORS commercial manager.

"Even the bottles are hand-made (blown)," Qasem told the Jordan Times in an interview, displaying an array of small vials in different shapes. The transparent glass bottles are decoratively painted or embossed, differing in shape from Urn to Ewer. Qasem explained that certain customers demand particular shapes and designs and JESORS tries its best to meet the specifications.

The water is used for baptism. The wrapping paper around the bottles has verses from the Bible in six languages and the seal of the "vicarius



patriarchatus latini" (Catholic Church) as a guarantee and protection from imitation.

The waxed/corked bottles are packed in small carton boxes (again colourfully decorated with religious scenes). Every 24 bottles are packed in a small carton and every four cartons in a bigger box.

The shipment is done according to its size. Bigger quantities go by ships, smaller shipments go by plane.

"The market abroad includes the United States, West Germany, Spain. Locally, the bottled water is bought by souvenir shops and Royal Jordanian's duty free shop. Some is given free to churches.

The prices are \$1.25 for the market abroad and JD1 for the local market. There is some flexibility in pricing, depending on the quantities demanded.

As Qasem stressed "the business keeps people busy, gives them a sense of purpose. We care more for this than for profits."

ACC countries determined to protect environment

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical committee set up by the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries ended a meeting in Amman Wednesday concluding a draft agreement on cooperation in ways of protecting the environment.

The committee chairman Awad Al Tal said the draft agreement, which was still to be approved by the ministers of environment in Egypt, Iraq, Yemen and Jordan, provided for drawing up a comprehensive system on the protection of the environment, encompassing standards recognised regionally and internationally.

"The four countries are also called on to conduct research for

determining the types of pollutants and ways of combating pollution, to exchange expertise and information related to the protection of the environment and to unify terms and regulations used in this respect," Tal said.

Tal, who is also secretary general of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, said the agreement paves the way for the four ACC countries to undertake efforts for a regional environmental strategy covering ways for combating desertification, cooperation with other countries in the region in the utilisation of water resources and spreading awareness among the Arab population on ways of

protecting the environment. According to Tal a joint ACC committee charged with coordinating matters among the four countries regarding local government and municipal affairs will begin a two-day meeting in Amman Thursday.

"Working papers will be reviewed and matters related to city planning, architecture, municipal affairs and urban development will be discussed by the committee members," Tal said.

The committee is also scheduled to review ways for unifying legislation in the ACC countries to cater for closer cooperation among the four countries in municipal affairs.

Music — a universal language

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Emmy-winning documentary on Jordan and Egypt will be shown on Jordan Television on Independence Day (Friday, 25 May 1990, Channel 2, 8:30 p.m.).

In this documentary, the experience of travelling as an artist in the Middle East is seen through the eyes of the American musicians and the people they meet.

The 58-minute video, entitled Classical Caravan, a State of the Art Special, shot during a tour of the region in October 1988 by the Chamber Symphony of Princeton, was given the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 1990 Award (the Emmy) for best sound. It was co-produced by New Jersey Network (NJN) and the New Jersey Council on the Arts, an NJN crew, headed by producer Anita Mehdi, director Louis Pressi and sound engineer Joseph Conlin followed the 30 musicians from the concert halls of the two Arab capitals to the ancient carved city of Petra and the pyramids of Giza.

The documentary is "as much about the ordinary people of the Middle East as it is about the universal language of music," according to NJN.

The Princeton musicians were invited to Jordan by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's National Music Conservatory, which encourages cultural exchange to fire the imagination of Jordanians young and old.

This is the universality of music, says Mark Laycock, conductor and music director of the Princeton symphony. "We don't speak the same language, but we could communicate through music," Laycock says. "Music

bonded our hearts and souls together."

The tour was conceived and organised by Communications Strategies (COMSTRAT), a media consultancy based in Paoli, Pennsylvania, who arranged for NJN to cover the events of the tour.

"We're proud of the crew and grateful that the show has received this honour for work done here in Jordan where we've been trying to help encourage the interest in good music and good sound," according to Comstrat President Irvin S. Yeaworth, who is in Amman in connection with a project to promote tourism to Jordan.

"We're also grateful because this award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences means that the show will be presented more times and in more places — and that's good for all of us, but most of all, we hope, for Jordan as audiences have the opportunity to see scenes of Jerash, Petra, and to glimpse a bit of the Jordanian culture and to meet some Jordanian people," says Yeaworth.

"The Jordan TV crew was most helpful and cooperative, particularly in lighting which also was under great difficulties in the Palace of Culture, the decor people, in fact everyone contributed to making the event successful," he added.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday addresses a doctors' conference. Attending are Minister of Health Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben and Abdul Salam Al Majali, former head of the National Medical Institute (NMI) (left) and (right) Jordan Medical Association (JMA) President Mamdouh Al Abbadi and Hassan Khreis, president of Arab Doctors Federation (Petra photo)

Crown Prince urges Arab doctors to join forces in helping Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday called on Arab physicians and specialists to turn their attention towards the deteriorating health situation inside the occupied Arab territories and urged for coordination in providing assistance to the oppressed Palestinians.

"Organisations like the Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) which is to be commended for its efforts and various Arab medical associations and unions can pool their efforts to provide a collective and more efficient service to cater to the needs of the Palestinians who are in dire need of such assistance," the Prince said in a keynote address at the opening of a three-day joint conference by the Arab Doctors Federation (ADF) and the Jordan Medical Association (JMA).

The meeting, held under the slogan "Arab doctors in the service of the Palestinian people's intifada," is attended by 1,450 specialists and doctors from Jordan, Arab and foreign countries who will review 124 working papers and hear 40 lectures dealing with diseases, burns and emergency cases and ways to deal with them.

The delegates will also hold five seminars dealing with the health situation in the occupied Arab territories as well as the pharmaceutical policies in the Arab World.

"Arab doctors are called on to deal with medical and health situation in the Arab World under the present critical stage in Arab history and they also have to shoulder the responsibility of

helping their nations achieve the World Health Organisation's goal of health for all by the year 2000," the Prince said.

"Amid this struggle, the Arab World is currently facing challenges represented in continued Jewish immigration from the Soviet Union and European countries, Israel's drive to create what it calls "greater Israel," regional conflicts over water resources and conflicts in Sudan and Lebanon as well as economic difficulties and pressures," Prince Hassan said.

Perhaps the major issue facing Jordan at present, he said, is represented in Israel's current drive to create a substitute homeland for Palestinians in Jordan a plan the facets of which are emerging through atrocities being committed in the occupied Arab lands including the massacring of innocent workers.

Prince Hassan, who deputised for His Majesty King Hussein in opening the conference, pointed to seven dimensions which he said are closely connected with the situation in the Israeli occupied Arab territories.

The first of these, he said, concerns the closure of schools and colleges to deprive people of basic knowledge and education; the second is related to the infrastructure of economic and social services which have stopped under occupation; the third concerns mass arrests and evictions and breaking up of Arab families; the fourth relates to the deterioration of the environment; the fifth is related to absence of scientific development and lack of technology; the sixth is related

to Israel's attempts to permanently link the economy of occupied areas with its own economy and the seventh concerns the deteriorating health conditions of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule.

Prince Hassan said that since the beginning of the uprising in December 1987 there have been 86,000 casualties among the Palestinians and this conference is called on to help deal with the situation by pooling Arab efforts to extend assistance to the Palestinians.

Addressing the audience gathered at the Palace of Culture, Prince Hassan said that the Arab World possesses vast potentials which can be exploited to carry out major projects and provide the required assistance to the Palestinians.

He said that Arab funds, estimated at \$700 billion deposited abroad, should not remain paralysed and frozen, but should be employed to meet the needs of the Arab World.

The Prince's calls for assistance to the Palestinian people were echoed by Dr. Mamdouh Al Abbadi, JMA president, who referred to Israel's crimes against the defenceless Palestinians, the continued Jewish immigration and the collective punishments imposed on the Arab people.

This genocide, he said, should be confronted with united Arab efforts and massive support for the oppressed Palestinian people.

During the conference a medical exhibition will be held displaying appliances and pharmaceutical products by Jordanian, Arab and foreign firms.

AACO meeting adopts plan of activity for 1990

By Lina Nabil
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) ended a two-day meeting at Amman Plaza Hotel Wednesday, by approving a unified, comprehensive distribution system for Arab airlines and an AACO's programme of activities for 1990.

A final statement issued by the meeting, attended by delegates from 18 Arab airlines, said that agreement was also reached on a project for financing the purchase and lease of aircraft for the Arab airlines.

Following the final session Royal Jordanian (RJ) Chief Executive Officer Hassan Abu Ghazaleh, and the organisation's Secretary General Adli Dajani addressed a press conference in which they gave further details about the plans and stressed the need for joint efforts in the face of major mergers of European airlines in 1992 and the challenges posed by developments in the air

transport industry.

According to Dajani, the comprehensive distribution system will be applied in 10 Arab countries which endorsed the project as of October 1990. "This is a major project because it is bound to facilitate booking and ensure better services," Dajani said.

He said that "Galileo distribution system" which will cost \$25 million had been selected from among three other international distribution systems.

Abu Ghazaleh reviewed the organisation's activities and said that Arab airlines possess 372 aircraft collectively and employ 93,000 staff. "These aircraft annually transport 30 million passengers and nearly 700,000 tonnes of goods around the world," he said.

Abu Ghazaleh disclosed that the airlines of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries plan to establish an airline to carry passengers to and from cities and not only capitals of the four countries.

Tourism Ministry committed to ensure safety of tourists

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Tourism has reached agreement with representatives of tourist and travel offices in Jordan and the concerned authorities on measures that would ensure the security of tourists visiting the Kingdom, according to Tourism Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabari.

"The concerned parties also reached agreement on the implementation of a plan designed to intensify marketing of Jordanian tourist attractions in the coming summer season in cooperation with the mass media and Jordanian embassies abroad," the minister said following a meeting held at the Ministry of Tourism Wednesday.

The meeting was attended by representatives of tourism offices with whom the minister conducted an assessment of the tourism activities during the winter

and spring seasons which end on May 31, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The meeting followed this week's incident in which a Palestinian gunman, Ahmad Badwan, attacked a group of 32 French tourists in central Amman, injuring at least nine including a Jordanian photographer with the group.

The injured tourists were treated at local hospitals and later joined the group in their tour programme around the Kingdom.

According to Kabari, the meeting Wednesday discussed plans for the winter tourist season which begins here in October. Before the meeting Kabari toured hotels in Amman, visited the Jordan Express Tourist and Transport Company (JETT) and discussed programmes for transporting tourists to archaeological and tourist sites in Jordan.

Qadlani verdict postponed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Sharia court has postponed until Saturday the verdict in a case of a Jordanian accused of being a member of the outlawed Qadlani sect. The court's judge, Khalid Oureidat, told the Jordan Times that the postponement was warranted by the appointment of a lawyer by the accused, journalist and writer Ibrahim Abu Nabb, and the indisposition of the Sharia prosecutor-general to attend Wednesday's court session.

The court was to receive expert opinion on a translation of the Holy Koran by Abu Nabb before delivering the verdict Wednesday. The translation was presented to court by the Prosecutor Abdulhadi Shamayleh, who argued that it was additional evidence against the accused. "The translation does not seem to be compatible with known interpretations of the Holy Koran," Shamayleh told the Jordan Times earlier this week.

CAEU calls for economic integration

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day regional seminar organised in Amman by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) has ended with a call on Arab states to honour their financial commitment to the CAEU and other specialised Arab League organisations.

There is need for such a summit that can adopt and implement resolutions passed by the 1980 Amman summit that aimed at promoting inter-Arab economic integration, according to a statement issued at the final session.

The meeting called to study steps to be taken in the face of the challenges posed to the nation in the coming decade and the 21st century. It reviewed 11 working papers all dealing with economic issues and ideas for economic integration, according to the statement.

The recommendations called

on Arab states to adopt the 1980 economic strategy that can help the Arab Nation deal with present economic difficulties and urged all Arab states to honour their financial commitment to the CAEU and other specialised Arab League organisations.

The recommendations included a call on Arab countries to adopt measures that would help ensure food security. They also called on Kuwait to reexamine its decision to withdraw from the Amman-based CAEU.

Furthermore the final statement paid tribute to the steadfastness of the Palestinian people. It urged the Arab leaders to support the Palestinian intifada and to undertake a unified economic stand to confront the U.S.-Israeli hostile onslaught on the Arab people of Palestine.

Air academy graduates commercial aircraft pilots

AMMAN (Petra) — A batch of pilots of commercial aircraft from Kuwait graduated from the Royal Jordanian Air Academy (RJAA) Wednesday and received their diplomas and awards from His Royal Highness Princes Faisal Ibn Al Hussein at a ceremony held at the academy under his patronage.

The batch brings to 500 the number of graduates from the academy. "The graduates from Jordan and the Arab World received training at the hands of Jordanian instructors," according to the academy Director Issa Qandah.

"Since its establishment in 1973 the academy has continuously been developed and modernised

and, provided, with up-to-date equipment for training purposes," Qandah said in an address at the graduation ceremony.

He said the academy had plans for the establishment of an aviation museum to display aspects of aviation development in Jordan. Ahmad Al-Ruweih, a Kuwaiti instructor working at the academy, said Kuwait had sent other batches for training in Jordan in the past years and intended to maintain this practice in the future.

The nine graduates received their diplomas and awards from Prince Faisal in the presence of the ambassador of Kuwait and other officials.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- EXHIBITIONS**
- ★ Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
 - ★ Exhibition of paintings by Randa Berooni at Goethe Institute.
 - ★ Art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha at the Royal Cultural Centre.
 - ★ Exhibition displaying traditional Syrian handicraft by Syrian women, and hand-printed textile by Mustafa Fathi at the French Cultural Centre.
- FILMS**
- ★ British and Soviet films on art will be shown Thursday and Friday respectively as part of the plastic art film week at Alfa Art Gallery — 6:30 p.m.
 - ★ Feature film entitled "Death of a Salesman" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.



T. Gargour & Fils

Agents for Mercedes Benz

Announces the inauguration of its new Sales and Service Centre under the Patronage of His Majesty King Hussein

on Saturday May 26th, 1990

On this occasion the company apologises to its customers for not being able to receive them on Saturday May 26th until Sunday May 27th morning.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

جورديان تايمز هبوة عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

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Back on track

THE elements that tried in vain to divert world attention from Black Sunday's massacre against the Palestinians in Israel and the occupied territories deserve the contempt of the entire country. The indignation expressed by the vast majority of Jordanians at the attempts of these elements to either block major arteries of the country, attack public security personnel or destroy private or public property is a clear sign that the country is wide awake to the designs and conspiracies of such saboteurs whose only aim is to serve the objectives of the enemies of the Arab Nation. The speed with which the Kingdom has acted to frustrate the aims and objectives of these people has won the praise and support of the overwhelming majority of Jordanians and Palestinians alike. True, security forces did overreact in some cases, given that the majority of demonstrators were expressing their genuine anger and frustration over the Israeli atrocities against the Palestinians. But the cooperation between the people and the government to contain the damage that ensued from the actions of the misguided elements proved beyond a shadow of doubt that this country is ready and able to defend itself and preserve its democratic march and national unity. Now the focus of the attention of the international community can revert to where it should have been kept in the first place and that is on Israel's genocidal acts in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. For a while the Israelis were accorded a respite from the world's condemnation on a silver platter and they might have even entertained the hope that the world would be preoccupied by the events that were taking place in Jordan over the past few days. But it remains to be seen what the international community is willing to do in the face of mounting Israeli oppression in the occupied territories. Of course no amount of tear-shedding is enough to compel Israel into heeding the counsel of wisdom and start negotiating with the Palestinian people on the foundation of legitimacy and justice. What is actually needed is for the Arabs themselves to stand tall and united in this difficult hour. The world will have to follow if the Arab leaders meeting in Baghdad next Monday decide to stop their infighting and inaction in favour of a concerted, unified effort. What matters in the end is whether the Arabs themselves want to learn how to call the shots.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AL RA'I Arabic daily commented on the violent demonstrations in Jordan over the past two days in which there was loss of life and damage to property. The paper said that while the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular witness continued Jewish immigration into Palestine, and while the Israelis continue to escalate repression on the Arabs, Jordanians ought to work towards saving, not shedding blood and towards solidarity rather than disunity and chaos. The paper noted that Israel wants to see a weak Kingdom, incapable of extending support and help to the Palestinian people and unable to fend off Zionist aggression. We are pained to see violence taking place in Jordan while we watch our brothers and sisters being killed and oppressed by the Zionist enemy in Palestine, the paper continued. Now that the Jordanian people have expressed their deep pain and sorrow over the loss of innocent life in occupied Arab territories, the paper said, one should be very careful not to allow the common enemy to achieve his objectives; and therefore everything possible should be done to thwart enemy plans and maintain national unity which is the real criteria "that proves our love for Palestine and for Jordan."

It was natural for Jordanian citizens to go out into the streets and manifest their real anger and indignation over the assassination of their brothers in the occupied Arab lands last Sunday, says the editor of Al Ra'i Arabic daily in a column Wednesday. Mahmoud Al Kayed says that although Jordanians wish to express their solidarity with their brothers and sisters, they should at the same time realise that no rash and irresponsible actions can serve the Palestinian cause. The writer asks: What is the use of blocking roads in Jordanian streets or burning tyres in city squares or causing damage to other people's property? Only a strong, united Jordan can be of help to Palestine and the Palestinian people, and only a steadfast people can lend support and assistance to their brethren elsewhere, the writer continues. Jordan, the writer adds, is going through very difficult and dangerous circumstances which call for cooperation and coordination on the part of all citizens and all institutions; and every one should be considered responsible for the safety and security of the Kingdom. The writer pays tribute to the security forces who exercised utmost self-restraint in the face of violence and commends the work of the professional unions which tried to help enhance national unity while rallying support for the Palestinian people.

Al Dustour daily described the merger of the two Yemens into one state as a major event in Arab history. Indeed the unity announced Tuesday represents a serious and constructive step on the part of the Yemeni people towards the aspired goal of pan-Arab unity, the paper noted. The removal of borders created by the colonialist powers within the Arab World should be considered as a great victory for the Arab masses; and the end of divisions should be regarded as a real step towards the emergence of a strong, united entity, the paper said. What the Yemenis achieved Tuesday, the paper added, should give new hope and a new optimistic outlook for the future.

AIPAC: Jewish intimidator of U.S. politicians

By John Law

LAST January, Senate minority leader Robert Dole suggested that the time had come to redivide the pie of U.S. foreign aid in a way that would provide some needed funds for the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe. One way this could be done, Dole said, would be to reduce the aid allocations for the top recipient nation — Israel — as well as for the next four leading beneficiaries (Egypt, the Philippines, Turkey and Pakistan) by five per cent.

To administration officials and many other Americans, making a modest cut in aid, especially to Israel, didn't seem like such a bad idea. After all, wasn't Israel alone getting more than 25 per cent of the entire foreign aid budget? And wasn't it getting it at a time when the deficit-ridden U.S. government was having a serious problem funding important foreign and domestic programmes? Besides, what about Prime Minister Shamir's increasingly uncooperative stance in the "peace process"?

To many who were unfamiliar with the past record of Israel's official U.S. lobbyist, the America-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), Dole's idea seemed to provide a good opportunity for AIPAC to score a few points with the voters by looking reasonable: accepting a very small reduction of aid to Israel on the grounds that this was in America's overall national interest.

But for those who do not believe in the tooth fairy it came as no surprise when Thomas Dine, AIPAC's executive director, issued a statement condemning Dole's idea and insisting that Israel needed more, not less, American aid. It was no surprise because AIPAC's unbending rule of thumb, particularly since Dine took over his job in 1981, has been: whatever Israel wants, Israel should get.

On the heels of Dine's statement of protest, AIPAC went ahead and drafted a letter, in the name of members of the U.S. Senate, calling on the administration to refrain from cutting aid to Israel. Seventy-three of that body's 100 senators signed the letter and sent it to the White House.

Seventy-three? This seemed way out of proportion in the sentiments being expressed privately within Congress and among other Americans. What made them sign it?

Fear as an instrument

Allowing for the fact that portion of the senators may truly believe that aid to Israel should never be cut at any cost, the remainder were surely influenced by the effects of one of AIPAC's other rules of thumb: strike fear — fear of losing the next election — into the hearts of members of Congress. This instrument of intimidation is no bluff. AIPAC has successfully tipped the electoral scales against so many legislators who have offended its sensibilities on Israel that it has only to point

to the most recent victim and say, in effect, did the rest of you get our message?

Among the many examples of this technique was Dine's comment after the electoral defeat of the former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, who after a long record of steady support for Israel came back from a trip to the Middle East and had the temerity to note that Arafat was "more moderate" than many other Palestinian leaders. After AIPAC led the fight to get Percy out of the Senate, Dine said: "All the Jews in America, coast to coast, gathered to oust Percy. And the American politicians — those who hold public positions and those who aspire — got the message." Similar comments came from AIPAC officials after the AIPAC-induced defeats of such political luminaries as Senator J. William Fulbright, Senator Adlai Stevenson III (in a race for governor), and Congressman Paul McCloskey.

AIPAC also likes to shoot a warning shot across the bow of a politician who strays from — or even considers straying from — a pro-Israel path. When it heard in 1981 that Nebraska Senator Edward Zorinsky was leaning in favour of selling AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia, Dine telephoned him to say, "I can't stop you, but I wish you wouldn't, because I want you to have a good relationship with the pro-Israel community, and they are not

going to forget this one." Dine once said of AIPAC, during a speech: "Like the Indian elephant, we don't forget."

The power of Israel's lobby

AIPAC has the power to go with the huster. It drives much of it from a skillful but abusive — some say illegal — exploitation of the laws governing "political action committees" (PACs), which are permitted to give candidates of their choice up to \$5,000 for each of two elections (primary and general) during a given year. A political action committee is a funding organisation that represents a special interest, generally having a clearly relevant name such as National Association of Realtors PAC, Teamsters Union PAC, American Medical Association PAC, National Education Association PAC and National Association of Federal Employees PAC (the nation's five biggest). But the Israeli lobby handles things differently.

AIPAC itself is not a PAC, but has developed a network of PACs which have names that do not appear to have any connection with Middle East issues — such as Desert Caucus PAC, Hudson Valley PAC, Washington PAC — but which are, in fact, devoted exclusively to funding pro-Israeli candidates, while taking their guidance from AIPAC. In many cases, officers of these organisations also sit on AIPAC's board of directors. Former government official

Richard Curtiss, in a recent book called *Stealth PACs*, has identified more than 100 of these pro-Israeli PACs, of whom 78 were active in the 1988 elections and donated more than \$5.4 to 477 candidates for Congress, more than any other special interest group.

AIPAC on campus

Being tough and nasty is not restricted to the legislative arena, AIPAC intimidates at the grass roots as well. At the nation's colleges it conducts workshops for pro-Israel campus activists, to show them, among other things, how to obstruct or even prevent the appearance of Arab or "pro-Arab" speakers on campus. Preventive measures that were once recommended to students by Jonathan Kessler, a former AIPAC workshop director who now is public affairs director of NatPAC, the largest pro-Israel PAC, included the suggestion that students "play to the racist tendencies of the American people" by telling police "you are afraid for your safety, or that the Arabs might get violent." If this approach doesn't get the event cancelled by the college administration, Kessler provided advice on how to heckle successfully and how to spread "disinformation." He said experience had shown that such tactics helped confuse the audience. So much for the "search for truth" in academia.

AIPAC's newsletter, *Near East Report*, which goes out to more than 50,000 subscribers

every week, also appears to be keen on spreading disinformation. For example, it has a habit of attributing virtually any act of violence perpetrated by Palestinians — whether one of personal revenge or one carried out by a group hostile to the PLO — to "PLO terrorism." Its current coverage of the intifada focuses on what it calls the "infatada" — the bunting down by Palestinians of informers and others collaborating with Israeli officials — as though this were the major focus of active resistance by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. Nor does it hesitate to add a dash of racist stereotyping now and then, although recent cartoon showing an Arab with his brain divided into compartment labelled "vengeance," "fanaticism," and "double-talk" drew so much criticism that AIPAC made a public apology.

The fact is, however, that most of AIPAC's intimidatory and disinformational tactics get played out behind closed doors: during a quiet visit with a Congressman, a private meeting with candidates, or a telephone conversation with an administration official. A senior AIPAC aide, Steve Rosen, once discussed in a memo the need to "reward friends and punish enemies," as well as to show politicians that "we are watching," while adding this caveat: "A lobby is a night flower: it thrives in the dark and dies in the sun." — Middle East International, London.

Arab countries look for new ties with Eastern Europe

By Tom Porteous

BERLIN — In East Berlin's diplomatic registry, the mission of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) is listed as the Embassy of the State of Palestine, and the mission's chief, Dr. Essam Kamal Salim, has the title of ambassador.

East Germany's recognition of the Palestinian state-in-exile is just one aspect of the political, moral and material support that the Communist governments of Eastern Europe provided the Palestinians and many Arab states for more than two decades. Arab diplomats and Middle East experts in Berlin agree that this special relationship is now coming to an end and they are looking for a new basis on which to forge relations.

"We have to put our Middle East policy into the framework of the democratic renewal in our country," explains Reiner Neumann, the director of the Middle East Division of the East German Foreign Ministry. Neumann is now negotiating with Israel on the establishment of diplomatic relations between East Berlin and Tel Aviv.

"We have to have more balanced Middle East policy than we had in the past," says Neumann. "We have to accept the new realities." The old realities were that the Soviet Bloc almost automatically sided with Arab countries against Israel in the United Nations and elsewhere, that the bloc countries provided their allies in the Arab World with economic, military and technical aid and that thousands of Arab students were granted places at universities and schools throughout Eastern Europe.

In addition, the East Bloc's secret services, such as East Germany's notorious Stasi, secretly provided weapons, training and intelligence to extremist groups. East German foreign ministry officials say they were shocked to discover that Stasi's foreign section had long engaged in actions in the Middle East that often ran counter to the government's official policy. The security service's unsanctioned and covert Middle Eastern policies came to light during recent, widely publicised investigations of its operations.

Said Neumann, "Right down to foreign affairs, the Stasi was a state within a state." But he admitted that even in the foreign ministry "we made serious mistakes." New transitional or democratically elected governments in Eastern Europe are now hastening to correct these "mistakes." Instead of continuing to oppose the spread of "capitalist imperialism" in the Third World they are concentrating their own shattered political and economic institutions and forging good relations with the wealthy West.

In East Germany the Stasi has been dismantled, the Communist foreign minister has been voted out of office and diplomats once loyal to the Communist Party are

preparing the ground for their professional survival in a unified Germany. Not surprisingly, foreign policy is now conforming more and more to West German thinking as the two countries move towards unity. There are already indications that Bonn is directly influencing East Berlin's foreign policy.

The fast-moving developments in Eastern Europe are being watched with considerable anxiety by Arab diplomats, analysts and policymakers, who are having to discard long-proven strategies and face new challenges. Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has already established a commission to study the effect of the changes in Eastern Europe on the Arab world. The Arab League is conducting similar research.

Neumann, a former East German ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen) who has spent most of his diplomatic career in the Middle East, believes that the lessening of the Cold War and reforms in the Soviet Union are responsible for recent trends in the Arab world: the new moderation of traditionally militant Arab states, such as Syria and Libya, and the PLO's two-year-old peace initiative, which is based on a two-state solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Furthermore, the gradual Soviet retreat from its Cold War stance in the Middle East has enabled Egypt, isolated for a decade because of its peace treaty with Israel, to resume a leading role in the Arab World. "The winners of the present situation are those who are able to find a way through dialogue to an understanding," said Neumann, clearly referring to Egypt's policy. "The losers will be those who will not be able to accept realities."

But even Arab countries that enjoy Western support, such as Egypt and Iraq, are worried about the effects of the changing face of Eastern Europe.

Moustapha Hannafi, Egypt's ambassador to East Berlin, predicts that Eastern Europe, with its lucrative oil markets, cheap labour and attractive investment opportunities, is likely to divert Western aid and private investment from the Arab World. Egypt is one of several countries which are using Western loans to pay interest on previously incurred debt.

Arab diplomats in East Berlin are also concerned that as Western attention focuses on Eastern Europe, the Middle East will simply be shunted to the sidelines of the international agenda, just as the intifada — the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank — has been pushed out of Western newspapers by Eastern European developments.

But by far the greatest Arab concern is the exodus of tens of thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel. However reasonable the intentions of the Soviet government in relaxing its emigration restrictions of Soviet Jews, Arab diplomats see the policy as a sad

symbol of Moscow's waning influence and shifting priorities in the Middle East.

The settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab territories is a particularly bitter blow precisely because it comes just as the Cold War is winding down and an Arab consensus on peace talks is growing. One Arab diplomat in East Berlin angrily suggested that the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories was a deliberate Israeli move to prevent East-West cooperation from producing a peace settlement such as that brokered by the United Nations in Namibia.

"We are not the Arabs of the 19th century," he warned, "we are important economic and political partners. The interests of Europe are at stake in the Middle East."

Western Europe has long recognised that its interests are inextricably tied up with those of the Arab World. Arab diplomats hope that the new Eastern European governments will come to the same conclusion in spite of new pressures and priorities.

Arab diplomats in Berlin say that oil will become the key to new relationships between East-

ern Europe and the Arab World as Soviet influence and now-discredited Communist economic policies become history. Until now, the Soviet Union has been the main source of oil for Eastern Europe. That is likely to change as the former Soviet satellites streamline their economies along competitive Western lines: Arab oil, which already gives the Arabs considerable political leverage in Western Europe, could become the lubricant of the Western-style consumer society for which East Europeans are impatient.

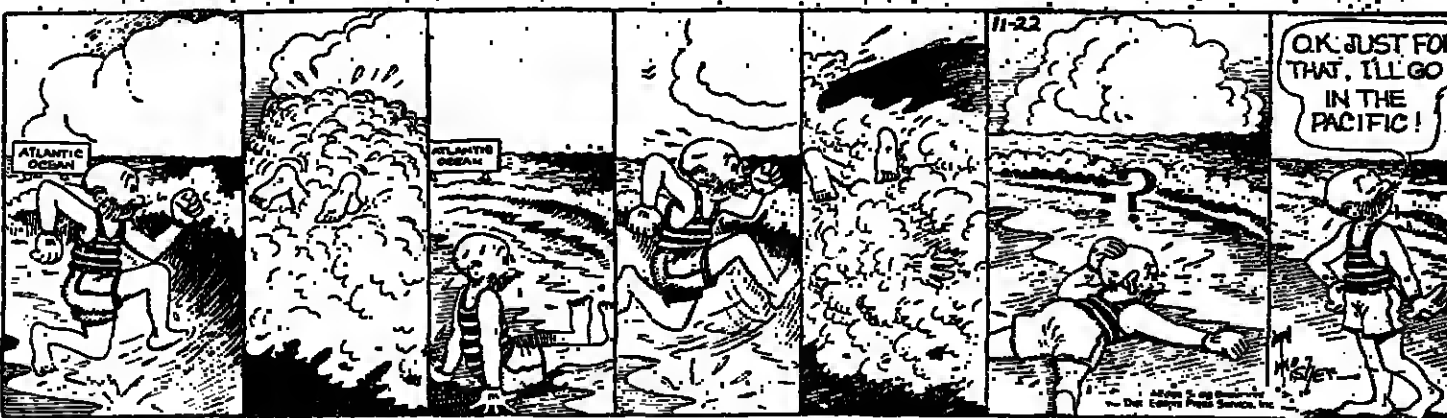
But the cautious optimism expressed by Arab diplomats and German experts in Berlin is tempered by worries that the rapidly changing global situation and the withdrawal of the superpowers from regional conflicts could increase, rather than reduce, the chances of another Middle East war.

While East-West cooperation offers a unique opportunity for peace in the Middle East, the shifting alignments brought about by the end of the Cold War have increased the political tension in that part of the world. And the arms buildup in the Middle East means that another Arab-Israeli



war would be terribly destructive. "While Europe proceeds with disarmament, the Middle East's arsenals of conventional, chemical and even nuclear weapons are growing very fast," said Neumann. "It is very worrying, and no one is doing anything to stop it." — World News Link.

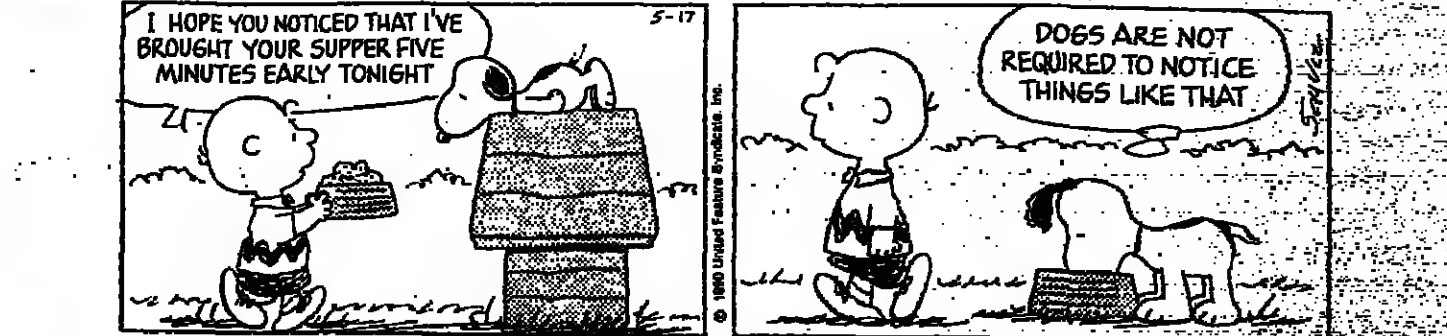
Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Jordan Times

WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

Thursday, May 24

New futuristic compound in Lyon houses Interpol

By Claire Pedrick

LYON, France — In the forger section of Interpol's new glass and steel headquarters, a police officer is examining an example of the latest in counterfeit techniques — a batch of U.S. dollar bills produced on a high-quality colour photocopier.

Further down the hall, Serge Sabourin, head of operations in the drugs division, is studying a report of 3 tons of cocaine found in a Dutch port, hidden in a cargo of frozen orange juice. A quick look through his computer records shows that the trick has been used before. U.S. customs officials discovered a consignment of cocaine concealed in a batch of concentrated mango juice coming into Florida. The information will be passed to the intelligence section to see if a connection can be made.

Interpol's secretary general is British, the chief of the police division is Japanese. Sabourin himself is a French-Belgian dual citizen. In all, 40 different nationalities are represented by the 80 officers working at the Lyon headquarters of Interpol, all of them proficient in at least two of the four official languages — English, French, Spanish and Arabic. Their job is to try to outwit an increasingly international band of crooks and to keep one step ahead of the technology used by today's smartest criminal minds.

At present, the number of countries belonging to Interpol stands at 150. Secretary General Raymond Kendall, a former Scotland Yard official and Interpol's first non-French chief, hopes that the figure will soon be 151. He has just returned from a trip to Moscow, where he has been trying to convince Soviet police chiefs to join the organisation. Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria are already members. Poland has put in an application.

With investigations ranging from prostitution rackets to homicide and from art thefts to organised crime, Interpol has far outstripped its original modest ambitions. An initial proposal made in 1914 led to an agreement between 14 countries to set up an international criminal records office and to coordinate extradition procedures.

The organisation was first headquartered in Vienna and later moved to Paris. Then, last year, Interpol chiefs decided to transfer to new premises in Lyon, having outgrown their old offices in the residential Paris neighbourhood of St. Cloud and sensitive to the nervousness of their neighbours. There have been two terrorist attacks in the past four years.

Here, in a futuristic compound on the banks of the Rhone, laser-activated alarms have been installed at strategic points around the headquarters and others are buried in the fenced-off grounds. Video cameras scan the area immediately outside the offices. Bullet-proof glass has been fitted in the most sensitive departments.

"Of course, if a terrorist was really determined he could probably still get in, but we've used the most sophisticated security technology available to try to keep them out," said Miguel Chamorro, executive assistant to Raymond Kendall and himself a former high-ranking officer in the Spanish police force.

The move from Paris has coincided with a complete overhaul of the filing system — the heart of the Interpol organisation. Incredibly, computers have been used to store records only since 1984. In the criminal intelligence division of the Lyon HQ, secretaries are still busily transferring the contents of old, Manila-covered dossiers onto computer disks.

By the time the work is finished, there will be around 2 million cases and 300,000 criminals or suspects on file.

Using the new system an officer can call up the dossier on Colombian drug baron Pablo Escobar, enlarge his mug shot on the computer screen, examine the alias he uses, study his modus operandi, his disguises and the languages he speaks convey that information to fellow officers around the world at the touch of a button.

"People think we are like James Bond agents, traveling from one country to another solving crimes, but that's not at all true," said Chamorro. "Our job is to help the police in their own countries, and we do that mainly by providing an exchange of information between forces in different parts of the world."

Through its computer system, Interpol sends out "wanted" notices to member countries, listing details of suspects sought for arrest. It also circulates information about new trends in crime, changes in modus operandi and details of missing persons and unidentified corpses.

Requests for information from member countries can now be answered in as little as a half hour where police forces are linked directly with the system. "With some less developed countries it takes slightly longer, but it's still a great improvement on the old system, where a request took an average of three days to be answered. In those days we used Morse code," Chamorro said.

In the fingerprint and photo department, Interpol has records of every criminal arrested for an international crime by police in any of the 150 member countries during the past five years. On the walls, charts arranged country by country display mug shots and fingerprints of international terrorists, from Carlos and members of the Basque separatist group ETA to key figures in the extreme leftwing French group Action Directe.

Other files list details of attack on a European city. "That was the result of coordinating a meeting between officers of various countries, to enable all the available information to be shared to its maximum effect," said Lavey. "We were able to prevent the bombing and make one arrest and one deportation."

Although Interpol was active in the early stages of investigations into the 1988 bombing of a Pan American passenger jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, subsequent inquiries have been taken over directly by agencies of the three countries involved — Britain, West Germany and the United States. "They are coordinating between themselves," said Lavey. "Their inquiries are considered too sensitive to go even through our channels."

Another recent arrival to Interpol's ranks is the FOPAC team — funds derived from criminal activities. It's "money laundering, to you and me," explained the department's American chief, Thomas Winkler. "It's one of the most effective ways of tracking criminal enterprise, whether you're talking about drugs, fraud or art theft. Criminals will usually be very careful if they have stolen goods or contraband in their pockets, but they are often less attentive to what happens afterwards."

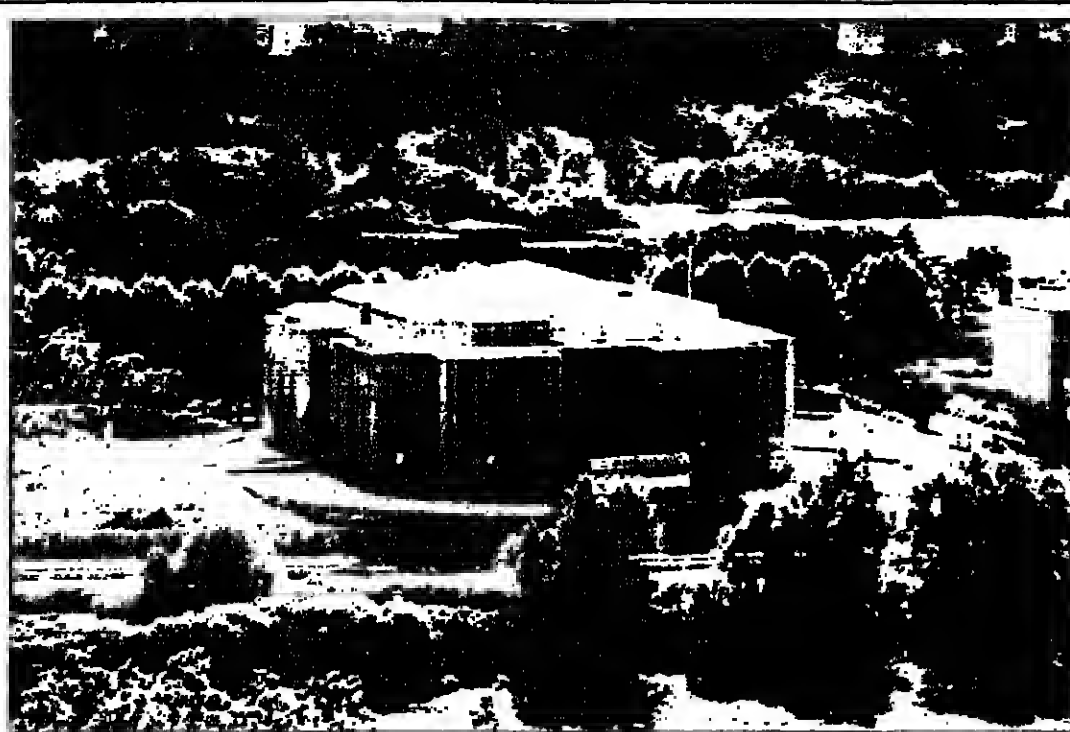
Last year the unit scored a major coup when it broke up a Medellin cocaine cartel that was laundering drug money stolen property and works of art. Every six months the bureau issues a "wanted" poster of the most valuable paintings and sculpture stolen during the period. The forgery department has its files copies of every banknote issued by member countries, plus examples of the cleverest forgeries.

The bureau's terrorist unit, headed by former FBI agent Ron Lavey, is a relatively new addition. "Up until 1986 there was a hands-off policy with terrorism, because our constitution forbids our becoming involved in the investigation of crimes of a religious or political nature," he said. "It's still a sensitive area and we have to tread very carefully."

Accounting for one third of Interpol's manpower and resources, the narcotics division is easily the biggest section in the bureau. The unit has officers from all corners of the globe as well as local offices in countries as far afield as Senegal and Thailand. The department keeps track of new routes, methods of concealment, new drugs and nationalities of the traffickers. At present, China, Turkey and Nigeria are pinpointed as areas of particular concern.

"We are the only agency able to have a worldwide overview of the drug-trafficking problem," he added. "Unfortunately, our intelligence shows there is no reason to believe there will be any reduction in drug consumption, and we do not believe heroin use has diminished, in spite of the AIDS threat."

— World News Link.



With its new data bank that is answer requests from national being computerised, Interpol can police forces within half an hour.

Diary

IN the "right of return" march, which went to the Al Hussein bridge on the Jordan River the Monday before last, three reporters from the Jordan Times as well as the Jordan Times's and Al Rai's photographer encountered mishaps that are only normal in their "bed of thorns" profession, i.e. journalism. They all inhaled tear-gas which was lobbed at protesters who were proceeding beyond their end-of-demonstration point. Lamis Andoni not only fainted from gas fumes, the first time she woke up she found herself lying on the floor of an ambulance with two other people occupying the beds above her. A few minutes later, the doors of the ambulance were opened again and a young boy, who apparently had also fainted, was shoved inside, and the ambulance took off. After medical aid was administered to the reporter and her group, Lamis decided that it all was worth the experience since she had taken good notes of what happened and witnessed live the whole scene. There indeed was a story, but it did not end there. Lamis' purse, containing the notes, went missing for a whole day and Yousef Allan's camera lenses broke for good.

BILL Lyons, the ubiquitous freelance photographer, was one prominent victim of the xenophobia that gripped some of the more extreme elements among Monday's and Tuesday's demonstrators. The tall, blue-eyed long-time resident of Jordan was standing against a wall in front of Jordan Supermarket in Shmeisani attempting to take photos of Monday's main protest march when a small mob started to knock the store down. "So I ran up the street and parked myself in front of the Atta Ali Restaurant," he said. "One man saw me and headed towards me screaming 'the traitor... don't take picture'". So Bill ran into Atta Ali for protection where he was duly calmed down by the manager and told that he was safe. The feeling of safety did not last for long, however. The angry xenophobia was joined by a number of supporters and enthusiasts who started banging on the windows of the restaurant breaking one of them. Hospitality was about to end there. "The manager told me to go out now," Bill said. But in the end he remained inside for another hour before he dressed up in white apron and a hat and went out through the kitchen door. "Xenophobia?" "Bill was asked. "No it looks like unemployment," he said.

AN American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) delegation went to Moscow recently to meet with a Jewish peace group to lobby against Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel. When the delegation, which included members from Jordan and the U.S., arrived in Moscow, there was nobody to meet them at the airport. Their subsequent attempts to find accommodation for the night proved fruitless since all hotels were full. They contacted the Jordanian embassy which duly met with the delegation and arranged to put them up for the night. The second day the Soviet Jewish peace group located the delegation and moved them to another hotel. And here is where the real agony began. The ADC team was moved into a hotel which placed guests three to a room. "That would have been fine if we knew the people sharing the rooms with us. But we didn't," one delegation member said. His group suffered through one more night at that hotel (the peacekeepers would not pay for their first night at the first hotel because payment was in dollars) before they contacted the Jordanian embassy again and changed hotels. End of story? Yes, if it were not for one cynicist who observed: "Did the ADC really need to have a Jewish peace group pay for the delegation's accommodation in Moscow in the first place?"

IN A questionnaire given to "high achievers" among university graduates who applied for jobs in the Foreign Ministry, one of the questions asked was who Abdoh Diouf was. The question was optional and the students could have answered any number of the other questions to pass the ministry's test. That was not a good enough reason apparently for one of the "high achievers" to identify Abdoh Diouf as a Jordanian folk singer. Abdoh Musa indeed was a Jordanian folk singer before he died several years ago, but not Diouf, who is president of Senegal. Diouf is said to be planning a visit to Jordan soon, (in fact he was supposed to have visited already) but until then we won't be able to judge any Jordanian folk singing talents that he may have. The funny thing is that the story was told by none other than the foreign ministry official who is in charge of overseeing the appointment of new Jordanian diplomats.

DR. MOUSSA Keilani, a columnist at the Jordan Times and former head of the Press and Publications Department, has been chosen as a senior associate member of the Middle East Centre, Florida State University. The wise choice came at the end of a two-month lecture tour by Dr. Keilani to the United States during which he lectured on "Middle East developments and the future of the Islamic movement," Dr. Keilani is the author of a controversial book on Islamic movements in Jordan.

Nermeen Murad

Thoughts for this week

Death and labour are things of necessity and not of choice.
— Simone Weil, French philosopher-poet-writer (1910-1943).

Eating little and speaking little can never do harm.
— Sir John Lubbock, English astronomer (1803-1865).

I never met a rich man who was happy, but I have only very occasionally met a poor man who did not want to become a rich man.
— Malcolm Muggeridge, English writer (1903-).

Money is a stupid measure of achievement but unfortunately it is the only universal measure we have.
— C.P. Steinmetz, German-born electrical engineer (1865-1923).

A feeble body weakens the mind.
— Jean Rousseau, French philosopher (1712-1778).

Jordanian museums reach out to children

By Nelly Lama

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN (J.T.) — A workshop on museum education was held at the Museum of Jordanian Heritage at Yarmouk University. In cooperation with the Goethe Institute, Amman, who procured them with Mr. Dietrich Herles from the Museum Education Centre in Munich.

Held for two days (May 19-20, 1990), the workshop proved to be rewarding. Delegates from the Natural History Museum, Irbid, the Archaeological Museum of the University of Jordan, the Archaeological Museum at the Citadel, Amman, the Museum of National Heritage, Amman Amphitheatre, as well as the National Gallery of Fine Arts, the Haya Arts Centre and delegates from the various sections of the Department of Antiquities attended. The workshop was co-hosted by Dr. Moawiyah Ibrahim, director of the institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University and Bergh Merschen the curator of the hosting museum.

Mr. Herles emphasised that a museum is a place where one has access to some information in an easily understandable, entertaining way. The idea of museums being for experts, intellectuals or

tourists is a misconception. Objects taken out of context and brought to museum (from the archaeological site to a glass box) might seem very unattractive and boring to one who is unfamiliar with them. Therefore they should be presented vividly and convey a message that goes far beyond the object.

Special attention was conveyed to children: Children should love to come to museums, and return there often.

"No one wants to tax his mind in his free time. People want relaxation and entertainment instead," says Mr. Herles. "Therefore, with the right stimulation, an aesthetic and entertaining presentation can, through reconstruction of models, active experiences, modern teaching methods, audio-visual explanations etc., make the visit to the museum very appealing to adults and children alike."

Explanatory booklets, with vivid representations are vital to one's understanding. Visual images and shorter texts insure better learning, while short games (searching for a pertinent object and answering a questionnaire, colouring, etc. can be highly entertaining.

Children participating in a workshop need to experience an object in a concrete and physical way. They can reconstruct an object, say a Roman helmet, put it on and ask questions such as who wore it, when, what for, and who were the foes. What was the outcome of the battle and how did it affect the history of the area. Here a child realises that history is not dead but continues with our present world. He becomes aware of his origins, of his cultural roots and those of nearby countries. This could create mutual tolerance and better relations.

Re-enactment of a certain historical event could make it more palpable.

Museums should be complementary to school education. Modern curators do not feel that children and adults need prior information about the museum collection before they arrive there. They take that task upon themselves, making it easy to grasp, and pleasing.

It was advised that a visitor stick to a theme and cover only few objects relevant to it, not the whole museum at once. Herles showed slides of a catalogue he made for the BMW museum in Munich with drawings, "fill in the gap" exercises and a personal way of dating. Dates were translated into family members. Me (now), my father at my age (50 years ago), my grandfather (100 years ago), my great-grandfather (150 years ago). This method being more tangible to a child than abstract enumeration.

Two students from Yarmouk University gave a slide show of a workshop they had devised for children at the Museum of Jordanian Heritage, concentrating mostly on script.

Mr. Suheil Bisharat made a lengthy presentation of the art collection of the National Gallery, talked of its history and its presently active role in catering for children. They are now in the process of preparing a children's guide to the museum.

The participants were then asked to take part in practical workshop. They were to take a theme and apply it to the objects in the museum and make a brochure or guide-book for the child not only to include information, but questions or drawing tasks. They had to prepare a draft that can be sent to teachers around the country telling them how to prepare children for their visit to the museum. They had to create a brief video spot in the museum, handling a certain theme that can be shown at an airport or a school to motivate students.

The result was a teachers' handout about the Museum of Jordanian Heritage, a pamphlet "Man and Earth — now man used the world around him." A paper on coins, a report entitled "the development of ancient man and his use of tools" pertaining to the Museum of Natural History and a video spot on rural

living as seen by the museum. A great deal of output for a two-day workshop.

To ensure proper school interest in museums, Dr. Moawiyah Ibrahim appealed to the Ministry of Education to collaborate with museums and allow more days within the schedule of the students, for museum trips. At the moment only one or two days a year are scheduled for such "free" activities. "The ministry should also back our projects. I expect the ministry to call upon the schools to come to the museums and be taught." All in attendance agreed about the need for a special department for museum pedagogy.

Ibrahim conveyed his pleasure at the vitality of the attendants. He expressed everyone's gratitude to Herles for "bringing us good ideas and leading us to practical steps."

The greatest achievement, however, was the bringing together of various departments that can, if united in the prime goal of teaching, achieve great services to the public, children being a prime target. They decided to meet again in the fall to see the results of the workshop. A committee would be appointed to prepare a "Museums Newsletter" to keep the public informed about all what is going on.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, May 24

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

Sandra, is sick and so her mother and her mother-in-law take the kids away lest they get sick too. Sandra does not like this and goes after them.

9:10 Basketball

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film
The Grasscutters

A collaborator with the British army flees the country for fear of reprisal — but the IRA sends a team after him in New Zealand. He manages to break away from them but not before paying a high price.

Friday, May 25

8:30 Robert Guillaume Show

9:10 Beauty and the Beast
In the Forests of the Night

Vincent goes after Gabriel's drug traffickers and really nails them down. The police hope that Diana might help them track Vincent down but helps Vincent to cool it.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Quincy

Quincy helps a dying woman to have hope and to love life again.

Saturday, May 26

8:30 Surgical Spirit
Cold Cuts

The hospital administration is cutting costs by turning down the heating and sacking a cleaner, Lily, who just happens to be a favourite of



Jeanna Kerns

Robert Marshall is all success in business, happily married and a father of three sons. In fact Robert wants to celebrate 23 years of marriage — but unknown assailants murder his wife and a string of surprises follow her death.

Tuesday, May 29

8:30 Charles in Charge

9:10 A Horseman Riding By
The Last Hot Summer

The peasants celebrate the end of a good harvest year. Craddock and Claire celebrate too. Talk of war begins to circulate but the people of the valley refuse to believe that a thing like that could happen to them.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Poirat
The Kidnapped Prime Minister

The Prime Minister's speech at the disarmament conference is eagerly anticipated. But when Poirat is urgently summoned to the Foreign Office, he discovers that the political stability of his adoptive country is at stake.

Wednesday, May 30

8:30 Golden Girls

9:10 The Nuclear Age
A Bigger Bang for the Buck

10:00 News in English

10:20 Hemingway

The continuing story of Hemingway. A short vacation in Kenya and the United States — then deep into the Spanish Civil War.

A scene from Blind Faith, Monday 10:20: Police arrest Robert Marshall (Robert Urich).

Sabatini's Sabatini discovers the only way to keep the cleaner employed is to tell Hope-Wynne he can no longer have a video operating microscope he wanted — but how? The situation solves itself when, after Lily has helped Hope-Wynne with a difficult patient, he offers to forego his microscope.

9:00 Encounter

9:30 Musical Programme

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film
The Lady Forgets
Starring Donna Mills.
Andrew Robinson

Sunday, May 27

8:30 Who's the Boss
The Two Tonys

Tony runs into an old girlfriend and her husband who, it turned out, suffers from a complex called Tony, the two do not get along fine, and start competing for attention. Angela here, steps in and makes a request.

9:10 Back to the Edge
A return to Vietnam

Many years after the end of the war, a group of peo-

Fig tree defies Rome Colosseum's chief restorer

ROME (R) — On the very top of the Colosseum, a fig tree bows in the wind, a symbolic target of the battle by restorers to save the eternal city's favourite, and crumbling, landmark.

Tight-fisted politicians sometimes drive Maria Letizia Conforto, the woman in charge of the 2,000-year-old arena's upkeep, to climb up the steep flights of steps to the ledge under the man-sized tree.

"Yes, this has to be the most beautiful spot in Rome. I always climb up here when I feel depressed. Just looking at how the Romans built this, the arcades, the galleries — it makes me think things can't be that bad after all," said Conforto.

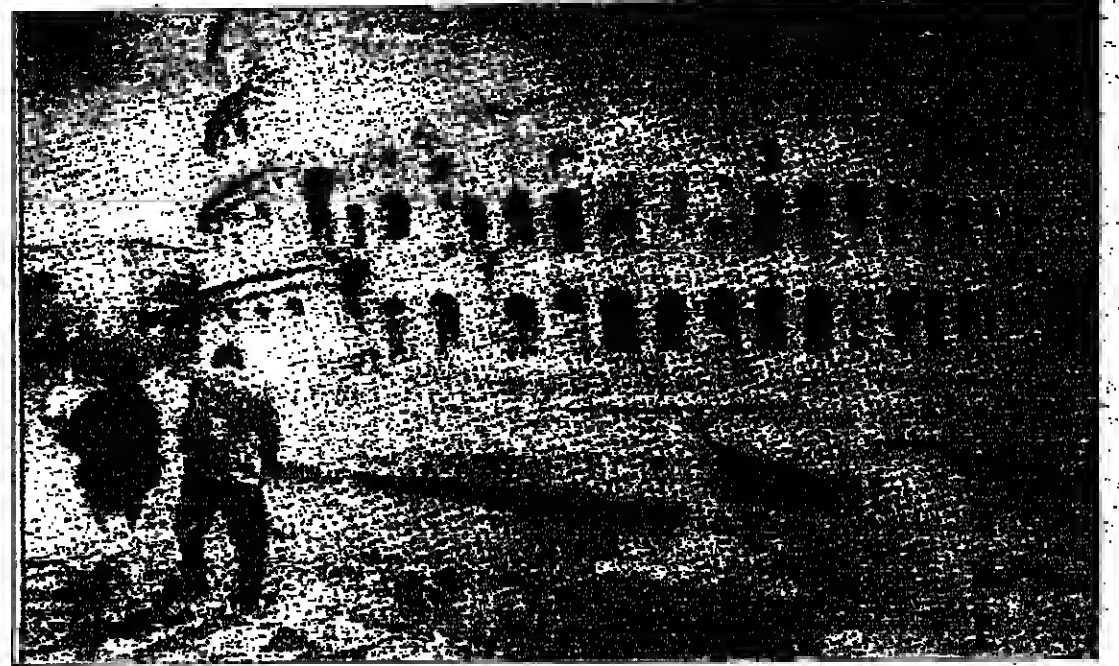
As she gazes at the crumbling hulk below her and, beyond, to the green palatine hill where ancient Rome's emperors lived, Conforto has plenty to be depressed about.

The fig tree, tantalisingly out of her reach — the restorers cannot afford the scaffolding to uproot it from its cosy ledge 57 metres up — is in good company. Dozens of weeds and small bushes, thanks to a mild winter, are sprouting early in the cracks of crumbling walls and vaults.

There are ugly gaping holes where the stuccoed vaults covering the passages and stairs, down which a full house of 50,000 Romans poured after gladiator fights, have caved in.

Side-stepping a fist-sized jagged lump fallen from the vault of a gallery closed off to the public, Conforto painted a sad picture of the world's largest Roman amphitheatre: "The whole amphitheatre is a monument at risk. It's not for nothing that we've closed off a third of it."

"The problem is our coffers ran dry two years ago. We don't even have the money to get rid of the weeds which need a special chemical treatment."



The crumbling hulk of the Colosseum in Rome

Conforto said about 50 billion lire (\$40 million) was needed to clean up and repair the Colosseum. But the latest special allocation of funds for the restoration of Rome's hundreds of monuments ran out in 1988 and politicians have not approved any more.

The Colosseum has done well to survive 20 centuries. It has been through four earthquakes, lightning, fires, the sackings of the fifth-century vandals and was used as a quarry for palaces and the building of St. Peter's Basilica.

Pope Benedict XIV consecrated the site in 1744 in memory of the early Christians who were thought to have met their death in the arena; forced like criminals to fight wild animals or armed strongmen.

In the previous half-century, the Roman Catholic Church set up modest homes, small shops and even a convent in the Colosseum. Before the arena was stripped clean in 1870, botanists wrote two books on its 420 species, many of which had sprouted from exotic seeds

imported with animal fodder. The monument has paid a heavy price. Art experts said most of today's ruin, which stands blackened by exhaust fumes at one of Rome's busiest road junctions, was the work of restorers rather than original stonework.

The huge blocks of travertine stone on its outer ring are pitted with a myriad of holes the size of cannon balls, where mediaeval armies stripped away the iron bars holding the structure to be melted down for weapons.

Conforto said the crumbling of the fragile vaults, speeded by the weeds' roots, was due mainly to poor upkeep and worse drainage.

Acid rainwater seeps through the galleries, which were originally protected by rows of spectators' stone seats long since destroyed, and gradually brings the stonework down with it.

The jagged holes provide an easy grip for the weeds, whose roots speed up the loosening of the bricks. Officials estimate some 10,000 square metres of pavements need to be restored. To make things worse, city authorities boring a tunnel for the underground railway have cut through the drains which run westwards to the River Tiber. Conforto said she was worried that trains rushing past would also take their toll.

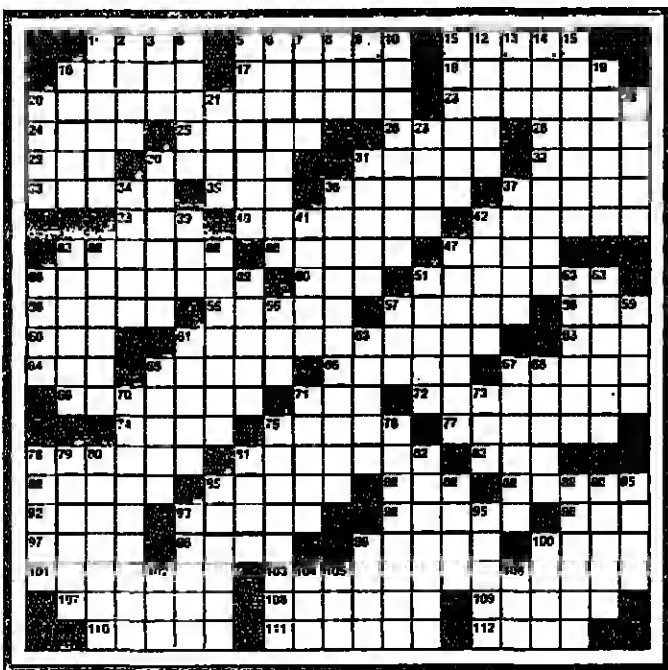
"The metro line is there and it will be difficult to avoid the damage which the vibrations due to the trains will cause. We've already got the damage caused by earthquakes and nature — let's at least limit that caused by man."

Now the Colosseum stands in an underground pool of water. In the late 1970s, art experts warned Rome City Council of "a deep and worrying 'fracturing' of columns, erected in 1820 to support an 'outer ring' on the southern side of the Colosseum, its most damaged part."

"I think people's ignorance is to blame. Politicians are ready to spend millions on a motorway because they can drive their cars down them. They think that because the Colosseum has been here for 2,000 years, it'll go on being here whatever happens," Conforto said.

Weekend Crossword

Edited by Herb Ettenson

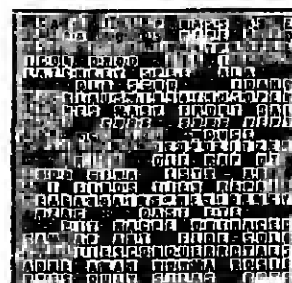


Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Nothing may satisfy a classic poet's profound soul better than good old lambic pentameter.
2. Seat scratched self with scissors while he cut swath out of scorched cloth.
3. First place bike racer pedaled along so drowsy he met himself coming back.
4. Liberty Bell creek arouses curiosity; causes some small talk.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. G M O C A N G V X G Y T M B O M L G A N
J E V W P A N M M C A B M F A Z J E W B L N A J Y B
J G V P A I L M B H P W Z G. —By Gordon Miller
2. L P M I P I O A P Y M E R S R Z M M N N O P Y A P P L E
S N K S M K U Z R U N C O Y — U M Y M I N R U N C R Y.
—By Ed Haddock
3. A W E E P S W U Y I C T U R N O W N U C I R S I E C R O O
T R A W E E P Y W N P O E C R S S P N C R O O.
—By Lois H. Jones
4. L H Z Z K H D K H Z Z T C J N Y Z T A D H L J N C
Y T T A E N P E L L E J O Z T J O K H Z Z C E L U K E O
K I L. —By East Ireland



BUFOONERY

By Louis Sahlin

- ACROSS**
1. Decision
 2. Plumed birds
 3. Treat unfairly
 4. Dough
 5. Noah's "port"
 6. Epic
 7. Escalator's walls
 8. La Scala repeats
 9. Name in seal
 10. Portrays
 11. Hindmost
 12. Fast period
 13. Munched
 14. Family cat
 15. Raccoon's kin
 16. Noisy
 17. Flambeau
 18. Jackie's second
 19. Quitters
 20. Philius
- DOWN**
1. Tricky chap
 2. Alibi or falan
 3. Racine and Hui
 4. Furniture wood
 5. Identification
 6. Fussy persons
 7. Units of energy
 8. Silkworm
 9. Certain velocit.
 10. Athletic no-mos
 11. Scabbard
 12. Artist Mairse
 13. Bow
 14. Infallible
 15. Very musically
 16. Uses a humble
 17. Accomplishment
 18. Radames' beloved
- Diagramless** 17 & 17. By Adam Christopher
- ACROSS**
1. Tide
 2. Used the pool
 3. Black eye
 4. Peach
 5. Twiddle
 6. Place for salekeeping
 7. Indian warriors
 8. First-rate
 9. Mile
 10. Irritated
 11. Great deal
 12. Rod
- DOWN**
1. Young led
 2. Dried
 3. Insects
 4. Each
 5. Boutique
 6. Strife
 7. With ice cream
 8. Vips
 9. Skied in a way
 10. Betrayed
 11. Peck

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, May 24

1941 — German battleship Bismarck sinks British battle cruiser Hood in North Atlantic in World War II and more than 1,300 lives are lost.

1972 — United States and Soviet union agree to project to put U.S. and Soviet space-men in orbit together by 1975.

1983 — Abu Jihad, deputy commander of Palestine Liberation Organisation, accuses Libya of sending weapons and money to mutineers in PLO's largest faction, Fateh.

1984 — Israel and the United Nations reject a United Nations proposal for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Friday, May 25

1914 — Britain's House of Commons passes Irish home rule bill.

1923 — Independence of Transjordan under Amir Abdullah is proclaimed.

1963 — Leaders of six African nations, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, form Organisation of African Unity.

1969 — Parliamentary government in Sudan is overthrown in bloodless coup and Major General Jafaar Numeiri heads new military regime.

1979 — American Airlines DC-10 loses an engine and nosedives into ground at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, killing all 272 people aboard in U.S. aviation history's worst disaster.

1983 — Nile River ferry catches fire and sinks in southern Egypt, leaving 194 people dead and 68 missing.

1985 — Emir of Kuwait escapes assassination after terrorists detonate a bomb in

his motorcade. Jihad Islami organisation claims responsibility.

1988 — Israeli army imposes curfews confining 200,000 Arabs as PLO-mandated general strike shuts down commerce and transportation in occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Saturday, May 26

1865 — Surrender of last Confederate (southern) army at Shreveport, Louisiana, ends U.S. civil war.

1942 — German forces begin their drives for Stalingrad and the Caucasus in World War II.

1979 — Israel formally returns sovereignty of Sinai capital of Al Arish, which it occupied for a dozen years, to Egypt under terms of their new peace treaty.

1989 — Jewish settlers raid

Palestinian village in occupied West Bank, shooting at least three residents.

Sunday, May 27

1905 — Japanese annihilate Russian fleet of 32 ships in Tsubima Straits off Korea.

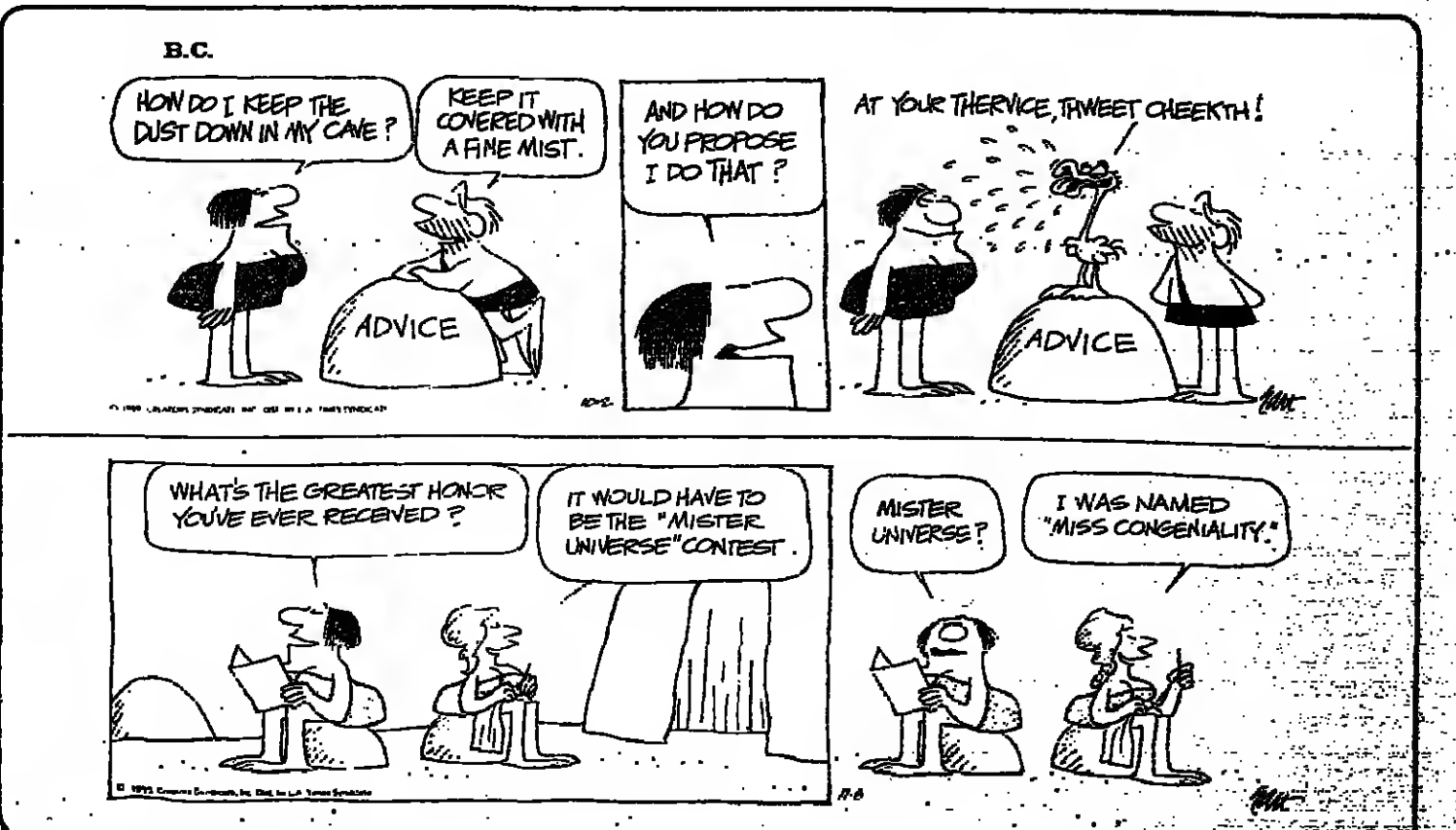
1918 — German forces launch intensive offensive on Western front in World War I.

1941 — German battleship Bismarck is sunk by British navy off France in World War II, with loss of 2,300 lives.

1971 — Soviet Union signs 15-year pact with Egypt, pledging assistance in recovery of all Arab territories occupied by Israel.

1988 — Syrian troops move into Beirut's southern slums, halting three weeks of savage street battles between rival Shi'ite Muslim factions.

By the Associated Press



Shawa's works are great witness to skillful use of colour combination

By Nelly Luma
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Rhythm galloped... that's what one is faced with as he enters the first floor of the National Gallery of Fine Arts where Laila Shawa's exhibition is held. The artist's paintings, covering different stages of her artistic experience, show a woman as if she were hiding behind a mask, often with empty eyes. The figures are crammed together within a confined space in the manner of the expressionist Emil Nolde, and lack nothing of his power of expression. A constant repetition of the female figure adds to her anonymity and lack of personality but the heaving forward of these figures is witness that, in their togetherness, they are a power. Varied decoration are incorporated within their drapery or in the background.

Shawa had begun painting stylised horses with decorative, and as golden background reminiscent of Byzantine icons, and definitely stating their wealth and grandeur. She attempted to use calligraphy and other decorative elements to fill a defined architectural structure.

After a few years away from

painting, she departed from that style, and started a new manner of painting. Shawa has her personal convictions and her paintings, though decorative at first sight, make a statement. She portrays the conservative woman as if she were hiding behind a mask, often with empty eyes. The figures are crammed together within a confined space in the manner of the expressionist Emil Nolde, and lack nothing of his power of expression. A constant repetition of the female figure adds to her anonymity and lack of personality but the heaving forward of these figures is witness that, in their togetherness, they are a power. Varied decoration are incorporated within their drapery or in the background.

These works are great witnesses to the skillful use of colour combinations. She covers large areas with very vivid colour, bearing different intensities and shades, although the rendering is rather flat. Tinted and pure tones are ingeniously balanced. In a painting unlike

others, where a man leads a hoard of women, the whole balance depends on the luminous yellow staff he is holding; omit that and the whole composition breaks up.

The colours being warm, the headcovers heavy and restricting, the cramping and decorative rhythms so overwhelming that they create a suffocatingly hot atmosphere. To this, Shawa adds a touch of humour as she gives each sulking female an ice cream cone. Is this frivolity allowed then?

Seeing the same conservative women in a street in London and, at the same time, punks, she expresses her cultural shock by painting the two punk heads in a stable manner, while the others sway to and fro... in a question relating to... who's the freak?

Another set of Shawa's paintings represents young Gazan girls in Turkoman garb. She explains: "I was born in the Turkoman area and have a strong feeling for the Turkoman dress. Turkomans came to Gaza in the 19th century.



Laila Shawa

Their dress and architecture have been incorporated with our civilisation." In these works, she paints architectural motifs of the area and overlaps them with a girl with ethnic features. In every painting the girl carries a symbol, a bird, a hy or a spiky cactus. The girl in the last case has empty eyeballs. "Don't you know of

the expression 'eyeless in Gaza'?" Well, in this case it shows those people who know the hardships that face them but are resigned and refuse to see the truth," she explains. "I cannot stand such people!"

Representing Palestine Shawa was invited to participate in the "Malaysian Experience", an idea proposed by the National Art Gallery there, as part of the "Visit Malaysia" programme. Artists from different parts of the world, namely Australia, Britain, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Palestine and Singapore were invited. They were to experience the physical and cultural environment of Malaysia and then paint their impressions of it. Their works were to represent their spiritual, emotional and intellectual responses to the country. They visited Kuala Lumpur, Malacca and Trengganu. Within the short time allotted, some painted architectural motifs, imitated 'banquet' designs that are very popular in the East, rendered the stunning glare of the sun

and, in sculptural form, created very ethnic twig and straw formations or architectural constructions.

Shawa's impressions were vivid and intense. She captured the warmth and intensity of light as it appeared among the exotic foliage of the Malaysian rain forest. With sweeping vertical lines emanating from the base of the painting, and foliage appearing very high, she demonstrates the tremendous height of trees in the jungle. One has the feeling that he is looking straight up when actually, he is looking straight ahead.

In some of these paintings she paints shimmering curvilinear foliage in an exotic palette of green and violet. But her yellow and yellow green paintings convey the real warmth and glare of the tropical sun.

In one instance, she makes the light permeate intensely by adding intense orange streaks into the otherwise green foliage. Although the spaces are rather small, the exotism of such a combination of colours



One of the paintings by Laila Shawa in which compressions and rhythms weigh on the man.

is reminiscent of Gauguin, Fauve, and truly a fauve, this passionate young artist lives in London but her perception remains ultimately oriental and... warm. The exhibition will remain in London until the May 30.

Philippe Noiret — The European actor of 1989

By Camille Herisson

PARIS — Philippe Noiret began on the stage forty years ago and has made a hundred and one films. In thirty years of cinema, he has played the most varied characters in the human comedy. At the age of 39, he has just been named the "European Actor of the Year".

He was born in the north of France in 1931 and nothing predestined him for a career as an actor. He started in this profession because he did not know how to do anything else. "I was a dancer expelled from all schools. I failed my higher school certificate (Baccalaureat) three times. I had to find a job which did not require diplomas. So I decided to be an artist. As I could not write, or paint or sculpt, I chose acting". At the age of 20, he was an acting apprentice and he joined the prestigious Jean Vilar's Theatre National Populaire (TNP). He was to remain there for eight years. Mostly acting old men, he leapt from one role to another, ten hours a day, eleven months of the year. Cornelle,

Moliere, Shakespeare, Giraudoux, Claudel, etc. "A great school which left me with the memory of accomplishment, of fulfilment", Noiret recalls.

His adventure in cinema began when he was 25. He played in Agnes Varda's La Pointe Courte, a precursor of what was to be called "new wave". Four years later, he won over the public with the comical character of the Uncle in Louis Malle's Zazie dans le Metro.

From then on, he made film after film: G. Franju's Therese Desqueyroux (1962), J.P. Rappeneau's La Vie de Chateaubriand (1965) and Yves Robert's Alexandre le Bienheureux (1968) which made him a savoury country-epicurean. He then played the tormented father of a murderous son in B. Tavernier's L'Holocauste de Saint-Paul (1974), and then a magistrate in Le Juge et l'Assassin (1976) by the same director. The latter then gave him a part as a Regent who is human and has no illusions in Que la Fete Commence (1976).

His admirable performance, with Romy Schneider, in R. En-

rico's Le Vieux Fusil (1976), the story of a doctor who became a mad avenger after his family was massacred by the Nazis, won him a Cesar for the best male role. Another memorable performance was as a cop stupefied by alcohol in colonial Africa in B. Tavernier's Coup de Torchon (1981). Two years later, he acted as an officer in the Sahara, a great lord of the desert like Iyadoute, in Alain Corneau's Fort Saganne.

In 1984, Noiret played the astonishing shady cop in Claude Zidi's Les Ripoux. In 1987, he was in Ph. de Broca's Les Chouans in the part of a liberal 18th century aristocrat who sees all he believed in, crumbling away.

Noiret's multifarious talent drew the attention of foreign film directors, particularly Italian ones. In 1977, the American magazine Time went so far as to declare him the best actor in the world.

He acted for A. Livak in La Nuit des Generaux and for V. J. Sica in Sept Fois Femme (1966). A. Hitchcock used him in Vice, G. Cukor in Justine (1968), and

M. Ferrel in La Grande Bouffe (1973). He then played in E. Scoll's before being the 'admirable actor in G. Montaldo's Les Lunettes d'Or, playing a homosexual doctor in the bourgeois society of fascist Italy.

His last two appearances on the screen were greeted with enthusiasm by both the public and the critics. In B. Tavernier's La Vie et Rien d'Autre, he put on the horizon-blue uniform of an officer in the 1914-18 war, wading in the mud at Verdun looking for the bodies of his men. In Cinema Paradiso, by the Italian director G. Tornatore, a nostalgic film devoted to the golden age of cinema, he played the part of an old projectionist in a small town in Sicily. Unforgettable.

To wholesome characters, Noiret prefers those with secret fribles and frailties beneath the appearance of strength. How does he manage to give them so much density, relief and credibility? "I get into the character's skin, but I remain sufficiently at a distance to control him from the outside and from the inside", he



Philippe Noiret

explains. "The difficulty of being an actor, according to him, lies in seeking a balance between a certain self-confidence, indispensable to avoid a fiasco on the stage or in front of a camera, and the saving doubt which allows one to remain

lucid: "Virtuosity should never distance the essential which is the truth of the show, the emotion and sincerity".

It is not easy! But that is the cost of becoming Philippe Noiret. For more than a star. A great actor — L'Actualite en France.

East German state film studio feels cold wind of capitalism

By Mark Heinrich
Reuter

BABELSBERG, East Germany — East Germany's state film studio has emerged from Stalinism's stuffy but cosy shadow into the harsh light of capitalism, leaving many fearing for their jobs and access to audiences.

After four decades of churning out movies faithful to the party line and assured of a cinema run even if no one came, the Defa Studio is scrambling to survive in a new free market where entertainment counts most.

Rumours of mass layoffs are buffeting the workforce of 2,300 at the world's second largest state film complex — after the Soviet Union's Mosfilm — as Western movies soak up a once restricted market.

The angst has been really extreme. I know many employees who have a hard time sleeping these days," said Gert Golde, general director of the oil-polluted, 72-year-old studio in Babelsberg, 15 kilometres southwest of Berlin.

Golde, who climbed Defa's ladder with 30 years of loyalty to a Communist Party which he quit on the eve of East Germany's first free election last month, acknowledges people could be sacked but insists no decisions have been made.

Defa employees, aware the studio is to be turned into a private limited company stripped of blanket state subsidies under East Germany's new non-Communist government, complain Golde is not coming clean about the future.

"About half the staff are superfluous," said Karl-Heinz Lotz, a Defa director now shooting a film funded by West German television.

Defa employs everyone from directors to roofers, glaziers and many secretaries with little to do. Some directors reportedly only showed up in the past to collect their pay cheques.

Like countless other East Germans threatened by cuts or closures of state enterprises in the transition to a market economy, longtime Defa staffers Blanch at the prospect of having to fend for themselves.

"If I'm tossed out onto the free market, I'll have to somehow offer myself up (to employers) and I'm scared. I can't imagine taking that kind of initiative. I didn't grow up with it," said Helga Wardeck, 37, a skilled film-cutter. Hampered by obsolete

equipment and the limited imagination of the studio bosses, Defa produced only about 50 films a year, including documentaries, on a total budget of more than 150 million marks (\$ 39 million).

The state film distributing monopoly, Progress Verleih, guaranteed cinema showings for all Defa productions.

Now, a lump-sum annual subsidy for film making is to be replaced by selective project-by-project financing.

Progress Verleih is no longer bound to market Defa films, and dozens of West German distributors are leaping in with hit-making Westerns — especially American — fare.

"We will have a hard time defending our old market share," said Golde. Of the roughly 100 non-Defa films screened in East Germany a year in the past, just 30 or so were from the west.

"Our films will have to win recognition in a different way than they did previously," he said with a resigned tone.

"All for the better" said Lotz. "A little existential dread is good for the creative soul".

Babelsberg once spawned much of what was avant-garde and provocative in European film making during the 1920s and early 1930s.

Defa's predecessor, the famed Ufa Film Company, set up the studio after World War I and classics such as Fritz Lang's Metropolis and Josef von Sternberg's The Blue Angel, starring Marlene Dietrich, were filmed there before the Nazis came to power.

Defa was formed in 1916 in the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany with the mission of contributing to "social development on the way to and in socialism".

Ideological restraints relegated the East German film industry to obscurity while West Germany's industry gained renown with the works of Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Wim Wenders and others.

But as popular unrest against the hardline Communist administration of Erich Honecker began to boil over in 1989, emboldened Defa directors tackled previously taboo themes and students in the studio's film school shot documentaries in hoards of protest like Leipzig.

One new Defa picture, Coming out, about young homosexuals won acclaim at the Berlin Film Festival two months ago, the first in 40 years to screen movies in East Berlin as well as the Western half of the city.

Art makes successful arrival in mens-wear fair

By Denise Lac

PARIS — The International Ready-to-Wear Fair, a world meeting place for fashion, was recently held in Paris at Porte de Versailles.

The new collections for au-

turn-winter 1990-91 were sumptuously presented.

Three major exhibitions shared the fair: The Women's-wear Fair, the Mens-wear Fair and the Children's-wear Fair.

The International Mens-wear Fair was masterly sup-

plied. It grouped together 998 exhibitors: designers, couturiers and manufacturers from 25 countries. More than 50,000 retailers, buyers and journalists from 90 countries flocked to the European Mens-wear Fair, created in 1960.

France's participation included 526 stands and accounted for 53 per cent of the exhibitors. She was followed by Great Britain, Italy, Spain, the United States, West Germany, Belgium, Portugal, Austria, Ireland, Cyprus, Finland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan, Greece, Australia, Norway and Sweden.

The European Mens-wear Fair was inaugurated by the Minister of Industry, Mr. Roger Fauroux, who emphasised its role in the development of international trade and its interest for an industry using manpower which is important for maintaining employment.

Indeed, the French mens-wear industry groups together some thousand firms employing 83,000 people, including 77 per cent women. Moreover, French exports in this area have risen in value by 15 per cent, amounting to three billion francs.

The main trends in male fashions for autumn-winter 1990-91 can be grouped according to six themes.

Townwear, with the traditional, refined, efficient man,

in his classical suit, able to take on the world. The suit has a straight line and is fitted. The shoulders are broad. Colours come in all shades of beige. There is also a lot of green and a luminously dark plum colour. Shirts come in pastel shades.

Weekend wear is inspired

frequently included in the collars.

Jeans remain the most essential item of clothing par excellence. Colours are dark and oxidised and based on work-clothes.

Junior fashions show humour and dynamism. They are inspired by technical

The general trend is for trousers which are tighter at the bottom, and broad shoulders. Fabrics are drape, Shetland and crepe. Colours are subdued, old-looking with reds and blues, shades of brown, black and grey-beige. Modern man gives importance to jersey with polo-neck and rollneck collars. The stress is put on the pattern of printed shirts. A quest for nuances of colour and patterns paves the way for art applied in the area of clothing.

by hunting clothes with a natural elegance. The fabrics are warm and coloured, going from tweeds to Shetlands and including all varieties of velvet and corduroy. Colours are cheerful and bold with red, green, mustard and orange. Details enhance the materials and leather is

sports. Bomber jackets and parkas dominate the scene.

Sportswear shows a dynamic man with a new functional and tough collection for men who want to get ahead. The mixture of materials characterises this trend. Colours are basic and authentic.

In conclusion, the general

Ties make a come-back in

strength and harmony, very successfully using artistic inspiration and masterpieces of art. Thus, in his new collection, Tino-Cosma presents a whole range of ties whose designs come from pictures: architecture, pop art, surrealism, abstract art, etc.

Moreover, bow-ties become multicoloured and are worn with panache. Their dazzling colours draw the eye. They allow a touch of fantasy with red, green, ultramarine and fuchsia. Anything goes in this splash of colour. Richei, in his ties and luxury, natural silk scarves, very harmoniously goes in for intertwining flowers, arabesques and paisley designs.

Art makes a triumphant and successful arrival in the Mens-wear Fair for autumn-winter 1990-91.

Fashion becomes an argument for creation — L'Actualite en France.



The male comeback in strength and harmony

Overwhelmed by AIDS, U.S. cities turn to Congress for help

By Irwin Arief
Reuter

WASHINGTON — An epidemic of AIDS cases in the United States has led to the growing realisation in Washington that the country's health care system is being overwhelmed and needs an immediate injection of money.

Momentum is gathering in the U.S. Congress behind emergency AIDS relief leg-

islation to combat the virus, that has already led to the deaths of more than 80,000 people in the United States.

"The cities are enormously stressed by this dreadful disease, and this is a signal that the federal government recognises that," said Dr. David Rogers, chairman of the New York State AIDS Advisory Council.

A \$2.9 billion relief bill was passed the Senate by an overwhelming margin and house

passage was expected, though the administration has not yet said whether President George Bush would sign the bill.

The government Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta estimates that about a million Americans are carriers of the AIDS virus but as yet show no symptoms.

All eventually are expected to fall ill from the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) which has no known

cure and is virtually always fatal.

The relief bill, modelled after emergency aid plans routinely approved by the government for such natural calamities as earthquakes and floods, would funnel up to about \$3 billion over the next five years into AIDS care and services.

Over the next two years, it would authorise up to \$1.2 billion to be sent directly to the 13 cities hardest hit by the

epidemic, those with 2,000 or more diagnosed cases of AIDS.

Additional money in the bill would be divided up among the states for use in other AIDS-related programmes.

"We are facing a national crisis on the delivery of health services to deal with the HIV (the AIDS virus), and that's what this is all about," said Senator Edward Kennedy, a Massachusetts Democrat and

one of the bill's authors.

"The toll that AIDS is taking on local communities and health care systems is literally overwhelming," Kennedy said.

More AIDS cases are reported in the United States than in any other country. The 13 cities with the greatest case load of AIDS patients are Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, San

Francisco, San Juan and Washington.

The expected rapid growth in the number of AIDS cases casts a shadow over all national health care programmes.

Through the end of April, 132,510 cases of AIDS were reported to public health authorities and 80,799 of these have already died, the CDC said.

It adds that by the end of 1993, 390,000 to 480,000 cases of AIDS will have been di-

agnosed and reported to public health authorities. Total deaths from AIDS will number 285,000 to 340,000 by the end of 1993.

The Senate-approved \$2.9 billion relief bill is emergency money over and above the \$3.2 billion sought by the Bush administration for all federal AIDS programmes for next year, including research, prevention and education programmes.

Most teenagers outgrow personality troubles in 2 years

By Malcolm Ritter
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Adolescents with personality problems serious enough to be considered disorders usually are just going through "a phase" and outgrow them in a few years, a study presented to psychiatrists suggests.

Another researcher called the findings a "hopeful statement" for exasperated parents of teenagers.

The study's results were presented to the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association by David Bernstein, a psychologist at the Bronx Veterans Administration Medical Centre and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

He cautioned that for other youths with personality disturbances, the troubles can be an early warning of long-standing difficulties. So, he said, parents should consider having troubled adolescents evaluated by a mental health professional if personality problems appear persistent.

The researchers focused on 10 types of personality disorder:

— Paranoid, a tendency to view the actions of others as deliberately demeaning or threatening.

— Schizoid, in which a person neither wants nor enjoys close relationships, and often appears cold and aloof.

— Schizotypal, a pervasive pattern of peculiarities in thoughts and behavior such as

superstitiousness, bizarre fantasies and preoccupations.

— Histrionic, which involves excessive emotionality and attention-seeking.

— Narcissistic, which includes a grandiose sense of self-importance, extreme sensitivity to criticism and inability to recognize how other people feel.

— Borderline, an instability in self-image, mood and relationships with others.

— Avoidant, a pervasive pattern of discomfort in social settings, timidity and extreme fear of disapproval.

— Dependent, which involves submissive behaviour in a variety of contexts.

— Obsessive-compulsive, a pattern of perfectionism and inflexibility in a variety of

contexts.

— Passive-aggressive, a pervasive tendency to resist meeting social and business obligations by such indirect means as procrastination or claiming to forget to do things.

Such traits appear in many healthy people, but can become a disorder if they form an inflexible pattern that significantly interferes with social or occupational functioning, or causes the person distress.

The study included 776 participants drawn from two New York counties. They were interviewed initially at ages 9 to 19, and again two years later.

Researchers found that 17 per cent could be diagnosed with at least one disorder,

including about one-third of 13-year-olds.

But of the diagnosable participants, 59 per cent were free of any personality diagnosis two years later.

Only 39 per cent of participants diagnosable for passive-aggressive disorder in the initial interview met criteria for that disorder two years later, and the other disorders were even less persistent.

Bernstein did the research with colleague Dr. Larry Siever and Patricia Cohen and her colleagues at the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

The study's results do not mean that adolescent problems can be ignored, cautioned Dr. Daniel Offer, director of the Centre for the Study of Adolescence at Michael

Reese Hospital and Medical Centre in Chicago.

"You have to take adolescent problems seriously, some do grow out of it and some don't, and you never know who will and who won't," he said.

If the troubles are serious and affecting more than one area of an adolescent's life, a mental health professional should be consulted, he said.

Offer also said he thinks two years is too brief to be sure the problems are truly gone.

"So many parents have so many negative experiences with teenage children and they're so pessimistic that I think it's nice to have that kind of statement," he said.

Mice and men join forces in effort to battle cancer

By Elaine Kurtenbach
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Scientists are melding the cells of mice and men in their search for ways to combat cancer.

Newly developed cells that are basically human but also have a genetic factor extracted from mice can deactivate the mechanisms in cancer cells that make them resistant to chemotherapy, Takashi Tsuruo, professor of applied microbiology at the University of Tokyo, reported at a conference in Tokyo.

Cancer cells, like viruses, tend to develop a resistance to certain drugs used to kill them. Resistant cancer cells also become immune to alternative drugs, making effective treatment more difficult.

Research results presented at the May 10-11 conference organised by the Japan Foundation for Cancer Research focused on progress in ways to overcome this resistance.

Genetic therapy and other biochemical techniques can be used to disarm cancer cells' defences while strengthening a patient's immune system, said Tsuruo, who also is chief researcher at the Cancer Chemotherapy Centre at the Japanese Foundation for Cancer Research.

One new genetic technique involves injecting drug-resistant human cancer cells into a mouse.

In a reaction like that for a vaccination for any other disease, the mouse then develops antibodies to fight the illness. Antibodies are proteins formed by the body's immune system to counteract foreign substances such as bacteria.

From new mouse antibodies, Tsuruo isolated and produced monoclonal antibodies — genetically identical molecules that can be targeted at cancer cells and used to destroy them.

The antibodies, he said, bind to the outside of cancer cells and prevent them from ejecting chemotherapy drugs before the cancer is destroyed.

Conference participants gave a standing ovation to Tsuruo for sharing the monoclonal antibodies he developed with researchers in Europe and the United States, said Dr. Gregory Curt, clinical director of the U.S. National Cancer Institute's Cancer Treatment Division.

Conversely, the cancer cells' main line of defence against chemotherapy, called pump proteins because they expel the drugs from the cancer cells, can be used to make other human cells stronger, reported Dr. Michael Gottesman, chief of the Cell Biology Laboratory at the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

In his research, Gottesman isolated and transferred pump proteins from cancer cells into bone marrow cells of mice, thus arming the mice's white blood cells with the protective pump protein. Those white blood cells, which are normally destroyed by powerful chemotherapy, remained unharmed, he said.

"This is designer genes at their best," Curt said. "Got-

tesman's research makes it possible to do this with men as well as with mice, making people immune to the effects of cancer drugs."

"Nearly everyone has a mother, a father or someone close who has been treated by these drugs and told the tumor shrunk only to be told later that the tumor has regrown. In the end, nearly everyone dies of the disease. Now we're finding ways to get around that drug resistance."

"Gene therapy is the key to the next step in medical treatment worldwide," he said. Dr. Karen Antman of Harvard University and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute presented research results from clinical studies indicating that very high doses of chemotherapy coupled with bone marrow transplants can increase chances for survival in breast cancer patients whose cancer has spread to other parts of the body.

The transplants, using a reserve of the patients' own bone marrow, are used to replace bone marrow destroyed by the massive chemotherapy doses, she said. Since bone marrow is the source of white blood cells, a key factor in the body's immune system, quick replacement of the destroyed cells is necessary to prevent infection.

Cancer cells, like viruses, tend to develop a resistance to certain drugs used to kill them. Resistant cancer cells also become immune to alternative drugs, making effective treatment more difficult.

A study from 13 cancer centres in the United States involving 250 women with metastatic breast cancer showed that 58 per cent responded successfully to the treatment, with 32 per cent showing no signs of cancer in follow-up checkups for almost four years, Antman said.

Chemotherapy in such cases usually yields only a 10 to 30 per cent successful response rate, she said. Because the massive doses of chemotherapy are risky, the method is used only in women with incurable cancer, Ms. Antman said.

Bone marrow transplants are often used to treat cancers of the blood, such as leukemia or myeloma, but have never before been used in treatment for tumors like breast cancer, said Dr. Shigeru Tsurugoshi, associate director of the Cancer Chemotherapy Centre in Tokyo.

"This represents an important advance," he said. Eighteen leading cancer researchers from Japan, the United States, Canada, the Netherlands and Italy attended the conference.

Organisers of the conference, supported by the U.S. pharmaceuticals firm Bristol Myers Squibb, said they hoped the exchange of information on complementary research projects would help spread advanced research results worldwide.

'Some premature babies should not be saved'

CHICAGO (AP) — Doctors must realise it is often better to let extremely small premature babies die, despite fears of lawsuits or outcries from lobbyists, two researchers say.

Medical costs nearing \$160,000 per infant and the chance that surviving babies will suffer lifelong health problems led to the conclusion by Dr. David K. Stevenson and Ernie W.D. Young, both of Stanford University.

The researchers, writing in the May issue of American Journal of Diseases of Children, said an estimated \$2.6 billion annually is spent on neonatal intensive care in the United States.

Stevenson and Young said

it would be more cost-effective to address "the root causes of prematurity — lack of prenatal care, poor nutrition in pregnant women, homelessness, and drug or alcohol addiction."

But doctors often feel pressured to order aggressive therapy for babies even when the treatment may not be beneficial, the researchers said.

"In part, this is due to the way in which fear of litigation causes medicine to be practiced in a defensive manner in this country," they wrote.

Special interest groups may also influence doctors' decisions, the article said.

"We appear to have a more vigorous 'pro-life' lobby in this country than is evident in

either Sweden or Britain," they wrote.

The researchers said a 1984 study found that the per-capita incidence of extremely premature, underweight infants in Britain and Sweden "was impressively lower than in the United States."

Taking issue with the researchers was Dr. Thomas G. Storch, an associate editor of the journal and a member of its editorial board. In an accompanying editorial, he wrote that the technology to achieve good results with the very small infants "is well within our grasp."

"Money should not be a consideration," Storch said in a telephone interview. "There is money out there,

and we as pediatricians need to become spokesmen to get the money out there rather than throw in the towel and start rationing health care."

Stevenson and Young said the costs of treating extremely underweight premature babies — those weighing less than two pounds — do not take into account the lifelong costs of caring for any resulting disabilities.

"The effects of erring on the side of life are as follows: We save some who would otherwise have died; we do immediate harm and inflict long-term suffering on many who survive and we expend an enormous amount of money on neonatal intensive care," the researchers wrote.

One in four visitors suffer mountain sickness in Colorado

By Denis M. Searles
Associated Press

KEYSTONE, Colorado — Altitude sickness afflicts one of four visitors to Colorado's mountains with effects ranging from nausea and headaches to death, according to a new study.

One victim was Howard Shapiro, a 40-year-old New York City lawyer. He flew to Denver one day in February and drove to this Rocky Mountain ski resort above 2,745 metres altitude.

"I became very dizzy, light-headed. At the onset I was short of breath, but that seemed to abate pretty quickly. The headache went from mild to severe ... and then the constant vomiting," Shapiro said.

"At some point in time, dying seemed the lesser of two evils," he said.

In the morning, at the resort's Snake River Health Centre, he was asked to participate in an experimental programme. He was placed in a red garmin bag, which resembles a backpacker's tube tent. Air pressure in the bag is increased.

"We take him down to higher pressure and lower altitude. It's a simulated drop from Keystone's 9,300 feet to about 4,300 feet," or a drop from the 2,836-kilometre level to 1,310 metres, said University of Colorado graduate student Jim Kasic, who is involved in the study by the

Colorado Altitude Research Institute based at the clinic. In two hours, Shapiro could eat and drink again.

Bengtacke Jaurin, 35, a microbiologist from Umea, Sweden, complained of the same symptoms after arriving at Frisco, altitude 2,755 metres. He went to his room and was found dead the next morning, Jan. 19. An autopsy showed he died of respiratory failure due to high altitude pulmonary edema, an abnormal accumulation of fluid in the lungs.

"The problem involves dozens of millions of people

Altitude sickness has been found to afflict 23 per cent of those surveyed so far at the clinic. "It doesn't mean they're incapacitated. But with simple measures, we think we can stop at least a dozen preventable deaths a year from altitude sickness in Colorado. Make that 12 to 20 deaths that are preventable," experts say.

— 13 million visitors to Colorado alone each year," said Dr. Charles Houston, founder of the institute.

Altitude sickness has been found to afflict 23 per cent of those surveyed so far at the clinic, he said.

"It doesn't mean they're incapacitated," said Houston. "But with simple measures, we think we can stop at least a dozen preventable deaths a year from altitude sickness in Colorado. Make that 12 to 20 deaths that are preventable," Houston said.

The institute's study, staff-

fed by graduate students and supervised by doctor-board members of the non-profit Snake River Health Clinic, began last June. About 1,700 adults and teen-agers have been interviewed at Keystone ski resort so far.

Houston, 76, began research on altitude while a mountain climber in the Himalayas in the 1930s and 1940s and while with the navy's aviation division during World War II.

Houston said altitude sickness is a mixture of problems that often occur together:

— Acute mountain sick-

ness, which includes headache, nausea, vomiting, shortness of breath, fatigue and sleep disturbance.

— High altitude pulmonary edema, water accumulation in the lungs that can be fatal.

— High altitude cerebral edema, in which water accumulates on the brain. It also can be fatal.

Symptoms can be treated with medication, but the disease can be prevented, Houston said.

"Prevention is take a couple of days to get here, spend a couple days in Denver (at

mile-high, or 1.6-kilometre altitude) and then come on up here" to 9,300 feet, or 2,836 metres, he said.

Houston explained what happens to the body within an hour of arriving at a high-altitude.

First, breaths come deeper and faster. Second, the heart beats faster and puts out more blood per stroke. Third, bone-marrow begins making more red blood cells to carry oxygen.

In addition, body cells undergo enzyme changes, and the kidneys excrete more urine to get rid of excess bicarbonate. "There is something going on in just about every organ" as the body tries to adjust, he said.

Clinic Medical Director Dick Nicholas, said acclimatisation generally takes a night at an intermediate altitude.

"We get people taking the all night bus from Kansas City. They get on the bus Thursday afternoon and get off here Friday. That's not enough time for most," Nicholas said.

"We also feel a high carbohydrate diet can make a difference. Mountain climber studies show that on a carbohydrate diet, they feel better rather than when on a fatty diet," he said.

The study hopes to eventually provide information so people can make informed decisions about whether to go to high altitudes and how to prepare for such trips.

Black princess and the knight

By Saba Sabat
CAIRO (WNL) — A motorbike, lots of maps, a Swiss army knife. That's all it takes to go around the world — if your name is Emilio Scotto, that is. And it's not just any old trip around the world. This 35-year-old adventurer from Argentina is making an art of it. His aim? To visit every single one of the planet's 172 nations.

"Mommy, I want to travel around the world," the young boy used to say to his mother. Today Scotto is close to making his dream come true. On the way he stopped in Egypt, the 101st country on his list.

"I'm not the first nor the last to go around the world," he said in an interview in Cairo, displaying with pride some of the 70,000 slides he has taken during his travels, and noting that he has earned a mention in the Guinness Book of Records.

As a faithful and loyal traveling companion, the tall and energetic Scotto has his "Black Princess" — a 1100 cc Honda Gold Wing motorbike that has carried him over 300,000 kilometers (more than 186,000 miles), burning up in the process 41 tires, 22,000 liters (about 5,900 gallons) of gas and 750 liters (about 200 gallons) of oil. Scotto is sponsored by several companies and is financing his trip by selling articles he writes along the way and by giving lectures on the countries he has visited.

On the highways of Dubai, in the Arabian Gulf desert, Scotto and his Princess hit record speeds of 240 km (150 miles) per hour, but they probably set a record slow when traveling through Guinea on his way from Guinea, Bissau and Sierra Leone on the coast of West Africa. There, slogging his way through marshlands, Scotto covered only 15 km (9 miles) a day although he was on the road from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

When crossing a country is impossible, because of political problems, like closed borders, Scotto and the Princess have to fly, which creates problems when the bike does not fit into the hold of an aircraft and has to be taken apart. Scotto recalls one occasion when his bike had to be dismantled

for a flight between the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, and Addis Ababa, in Ethiopia. Far from being angry at the delay this caused, passengers got off the plane and encouraged the traveler with laughter and applause. Says Scotto, "What I find fascinating about traveling is meeting with so many different people. This makes my trip far more than a lesson in geography, it is a lesson in humanity."

Scotto realizes that the five years he has been on the road have changed his outlook on life. "I used to believe that being white, I belonged to a superior race, and these five years have given me a more realistic vision of the world. I have had contacts with people of all races, and I have realized that although people may be different in terms of mentality and customs, human values hold true everywhere. I have met with enormous generosity and friendliness," he noted.

"I found French-speaking Africans much more friendly than Frenchmen in France," he added. And contrary to what he had been told, he found Germans open-minded and friendly. In the course of his journeys, Scotto has lived through countless adventures. Among his most vivid memories is a trip down the Amazon river on a rickety old boat from the port of Belem in northern Brazil to Manaus, in the heart of the Amazonian jungle — a distance of some 1,700 km (1,000 miles). His companions aboard the ship also sought adventure, but in the gold fields, and they were armed to the teeth with knives and guns.

"I didn't feel too comfortable," he recalls. Mealtimes on the boat proved to be something of a contest — first come, first served — and Scotto soon learned that if he wanted to eat, he had to scramble for his meal. After a few tries, he succeeded in filling his plate, which seemed to win him the respect of his fellow travelers. "They started talking and asking me what I was doing on the Amazon river with my motorbike. I told them about my childhood dream, the problems I'd had and the likely difficulties I would be facing," said Scotto.



Emilio Scotto

Later in the evening, everybody sat down at the table, weapons clearly laid out, to play a card game known as "Bicho." Though reluctant, Scotto had little choice but to join the game, and after hearing a brief explanation of the rules, he found himself winning almost every round. "I had a pile of bank notes and coins in front of me," he said. Then the captain decided it was time to go to bed. "I told them it must have been beginner's luck, apologized and offered to give them back their money. They wouldn't hear of it," Scotto said. Much to his surprise, the men put away their weapons and went quietly to bed. "It was only much later that I understood that the game had been an indirect way for these tough guys to help me with my travels."

Scotto firmly believes that if people knew each other better, there would be fewer conflicts. "Everywhere I have been, people are tired of war and nobody believes war is a way of solving political problems," says the biker.

To do his bit, he is using his trip to spread the message of peace he has heard so often along the way.

"This is also a journey for the cause of peace," he explained, adding that he has written to all the heads of state who received him, from former US President Ronald Reagan to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, to Libya's Colonel Qadhafi, and even the Pope. "This is a letter of peace that expresses not only my opinion, but that of the many people I have met during my five years of travel."

During his odyssey Scotto has also noticed that reality is often very different from the way situations are presented in the news media. "Take Colombia, for example. It is pictured as a country riddled with drugs, a country that is doomed along with its people. The drug problem certainly exists, but it is far from affecting the whole country, and the Colombians are some of the most charming people in the world," Scotto said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Calm takes hold

Television carried statements issued by several members of the Lower House of Parliament, including Tahar Al Masri, Sheikh Abu Zant, Jamal Sarairh, Abdullah Zurrikat, Salim Zoubi, Atif Al Basoush and Fuad Khalafat. The central theme of the statements was an emphasis on the need to preserve national unity and appeals in the public against indulging in any activity which will shift the focus of attention away from Israeli practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied lands. The deputies also noted that any such diversion ahead of the May 29 Arab summit to be held in Baghdad will only serve the interests of the enemy.

The parliament members called on the public to return to work and respect law and order and underlined the necessity to avoid breaching the guidelines set by the security forces. They also warned that the freedoms

gained in Jordan's democratization process should not be misused. The PLO also appealed to the people to maintain unity and cohesion for "the sake of supporting the untold and falling Israel's plots."

Petra quoted PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's advisor Bassam Abu Sharif as saying that "Jordanian-Palestinian ties are deeply rooted and the two peoples have common objectives and interests and seek the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil."

"Both peoples should extend whatever support they can for the Palestinian people under occupation who will continue their uprising despite Israel's atrocities and slaughter of innocent people," Abu Sharif was quoted as saying by Petra. "Both peoples should join Israel's aim of diverting world attention from the developments inside the occupied territories," Abu Sharif said.

Several factors behind unrest

"It is like a ball that keeps rolling in the snow," he said. "Large numbers of youth have the enthusiasm of the young blood. This is a generation that is living its problems. The country suffers from unemployment... the democratic experience is limited and these people show their anger as they see on TV by breaking and throwing stones."

"The anecdotes on places serving alcohol and the breweries indicate that people have been filled with an ideology which throws all problems onto whiskey bottles and male handborders," he said.

"Most people are against the violence taking place in the country," he noted and expressed hope that "the development of democracy in the country will help us overcome these problems."

Several other deputies voiced the same sentiments and emphasized the need to preserve national unity.

Israel hits back at U.S.

"We have problems with this administration — one of them on a personal level," a senior Israeli official said, referring to tension between Shamir and Bush, as well as with Secretary of State James Baker.

In a sign of pique, the U.S. Congress last week proposed charging Israel an additional \$1.8 billion fee on loan guarantees it is seeking to finance housing for Soviet Jewish immigrants.

The sum corresponds to the amount the Israeli government secretly paid through a Panamanian front company to finance the settlers in the Christian quarter.

Former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin of labour made a radio statement conceding the stalled peace process was behind the current violence but rejecting criticism that the army opened fire too readily on protesters.

"I have no doubt that if the peace process had not been paralysed we would not be facing this Middle East reality nor the reality in the (occupied) territories as it exists today," he said on army radio.

U.S. officials have underscored their repeated call for the opening of a credible peace process to calm rising Arab-Israeli tensions.

Tutwiler was asked for U.S. reaction to a proposal by the Palestine Liberation Organisation that an international peacekeeping force be dispatched in the Israeli-occupied territories to restore calm. She had no comment.

She was also asked whether the United States favoured a debate in the United Nations Security Council about events in Israel and whether Arafat should take part to such a debate. She also declined comment on that.

White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said Tuesday that "the president wishes to extend his sympathies to the families of the Palestinian workers who lost their lives in the tragic killings in Israel on Sunday, May 20. The president is also deeply troubled by the violent aftermath to these deaths. Besides expressing condolences to the families of all those who have lost their lives amidst the subsequent violence, the president calls upon the Israeli security forces as well as others to act with maximum restraint. Additional bloodshed and loss of life will only compound the tragedy."

"It is not enough, however, to deplore what has happened and to call for restraint. It is essential to address the political issues that lie at the core of the region's strife. Based on experience, we believe that violence in the Middle East will continue and possibly grow so long as there is an absence of a promising peace process that nourishes hope among Israelis and Palestinians alike."

"The United States remains committed to promoting such a political process. We believe that the initiative of the government of Israel, which the United States has been trying to implement, offers the best path to a negotiating process that would protect Israel's security, further the legitimate political rights of Palestinians, and bring about a broader reconciliation between the state of Israel and its Arab neighbours. We look forward to the quick emergence of an Israeli government that is capable of making decisions on issues of peace and is committed just as we are to moving ahead on the peace process."

Israelis bar Arab entry

ses the U.N. Security Council Friday, another PLO official said Wednesday.

"Arafat will ask for protection for Palestinians in the occupied territories and for international intervention," the PLO representative in the Netherlands, Afif Safieh, told a press conference in the Hague.

"(He) will ask for the withdrawal of all Israeli forces now from the occupied territories and ask to send U.N. peacekeeping forces for an interim period until a final (peace) settlement — that is Palestinian sovereignty — is reached."

The U.N. Security Council is due to hear Arafat during a debate on violence in the occupied territories.

The decision to hold the debate in Geneva rather than U.N. headquarters in New York has prompted speculation that a deal had been struck, with Arab diplomats agreeing not to press for a U.S. visa for Arafat and Washington prepared to consider action.

Safieh had called the press conference to announce that he was on an indefinite hunger strike. He was in effect joining about 50 Palestinians in

Arab Jerusalem who have stopped eating since Sunday to demand international intervention in protect Palestinian lives.

Thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese marched the streets of Beirut Wednesday screaming revenge for Arabs killed in Israel.

"We're coming to get our enemy... we're coming out from every house, and street and alleyway. We're coming out with stones, knives and hand grenades," yelled the demonstrators. At least 8,000 men, many covering their heads and faces with chequered Palestinian scarves, women and children carrying rocks walked for some seven kilometres to a United Nations building on Beirut's southern outskirts.

"Down with the olive branch, let the peaceful solution be dropped. Infatida flare up," they shouted in harmony.

Most of Lebanon was paralysed Wednesday by a general strike called by leftist parties in protest at the killings.

Women carrying Palestinian flags walked. Young girls in traditional Palestinian robes beat drums and blew bagpipes.

U.S. message stirs trouble

Egypt, Morocco and Saudi Arabia are looking for a way to avoid a war of words with Washington, they added.

The moderates felt Iraq was trying to discredit any position similar to that of Washington, they said.

"Several member states reacted very negatively to the U.S. letter. It's pushed us towards a clear and firm response," a PLO delegate told Reuters.

"Now that the Iraqis have published it, it's bound to push the real issues to the sidelines and leave the Arabs arguing over how to respond," a Western diplomat commented.

The unsigned letter, written in the name of the U.S. administration, asked the Arab summit to give a clearer recognition of Israel's right to exist and endorse the principle of a negotiated peace with the Jewish state.

The Arab leaders should endorse December 1988 statements by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, in which he recognised Israel, renounced terrorism and accepted U.N. resolutions 242 and 338, it said.

The last Arab summit, in Casablanca in May 1989, endorsed only the PLO's 1988 peace initiative, which proposed a Palestinian state alongside Israel but did not say explicitly that Israel was a legitimate state.

Another controversial recommendation to the U.S. letter is that next week's summit should distinguish between Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel proper.

Egypt pressed last night for a resolution along the same lines but other states favoured a blanket condemnation of the whole immigration process.

Arabs fear the influx of Soviet Jews

could destroy Palestinian aspirations for their own state in the occupied territories.

Experts who met Tuesday night and Wednesday morning also failed to agree on the next step in the Middle East peace process, delegates said.

The United States has asked them to endorse its idea of an Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo but many Arab states continue to favour a Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices, the added.

PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas) said the U.S. letter was an attempt to prevent the summit from taking the serious resolutions which the Arab World demanded.

Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), a small PLO group, added in a statement: "The U.S. attempt should provoke Arab leaders into taking decisive decisions to confront the Zionist entity (Israel) and its allies, particularly the United States."

Among other U.S. observations in the letter were:

— The Arab States should pledge complete support for Lebanonese President Elias Hrawi and the Taif agreements of October 1989. The agreements set the framework for Hrawi's election and the gradual redeployment of Syrian troops towards eastern Lebanon.

— A decisive summit resolution calling for the release of all hostages would send a clear message to the kidnappers and help speed up the release of those that remain."

— "We hope that the coming summit will avoid naming the United States (in critical resolutions)... this affects our willingness to look seriously at Arab summit statements."

U.S. to take more Soviets

way to end the violence," Monclim said.

Earlier Wednesday, Israeli Labour leader Shimon Peres suggested that Israel should settle Soviet Jews in the Naqurah desert in an apparent bid to allay Arab fears over the immigration issue.

"I think to overcome a desert is less expensive than to overcome hostility. It will be by far more economic to settle (immigrants) in the middle of the 'Negev' desert," Peres told Cairo-based foreign correspondents.

He was elaborating on remarks he made Tuesday during a speech to a conference of the Socialist International.

"The (occupied) West Bank is not more than two or three thousand square kilometres and it is quite populated, whereas half of Israel is actually empty, the 'Negev'," Peres said.

Peres also said Israel does not intend to attack Iraq or any other Arab country but remains worried about Iraqi policies.

Bungy jumping — one of the last thrills

By Dean Goodman
Reviews

QUEENSTOWN, New Zealand — Call them suicidal or just plain stupid: but thousands of visitors to this New Zealand tourist resort get their kicks by jumping 43 metres off a bridge attached only by a giant rubber band.

Bungy jumping, an often fatal ritual among the youth of the Pacific Islands of Vanuatu, was introduced several years ago into a sport for the masses by a daredevil New Zealander.

The exhilaration of plunging at speeds up to 160 kilometres an hour gives the jumper a rush of adrenaline and that certain "lucky-to-be-alive" feeling.

"It's the rejection of all that material civilization to stay away from the edge," according to Simon Morton, sales manager of A.J. Hackett Bungy Jumping.

"There's that instant thing about height, and this for a lot of people is a chance to challenge one of their biggest fears and do it

in an environment which is 100 per cent safe... it's the safest way to fly in the world."

Banned in some countries, but fast becoming an institution in a nation which prides itself on outdoor pursuits, bungy jumping is perhaps one of the world's last great old fashioned adventures.

"For jetboating or rafting you've got somebody there who's actually controlling the machinery. We supply the machinery but at the end of the day you've got to be the one to jump off the bridge," said Morton.

Morton's company runs two bungy-jumping operations. One is a 76-metre monster jump from the skippers Canyon Bridge high in the mountains of New Zealand's South Island.

More than 30,000 locals and tourists ranging in age from eight to 87, have taken the plunge without injury since the operation started 19 months ago.

But in Auckland, where customers leap from a crane, a jumper died earlier this year and the

operator faces a manslaughter charge.

A.J. Hackett, who popularised the sport and earned it some notoriety by jumping off the Eiffel Tower and from the Auckland harbour bridge, now lives in Paris planning greater jumps in Europe.

The bungy jump outside Queenstown at an old railway bridge overlooks the panoramic Kawarau gorge. Swarms of intrepid customers, most of them aged between 18 and 24, hand over \$5 dollars (49 U.S. dollars) and sign a contract releasing the operator from liability.

The jumper's ankles are firmly bound with a cord the length of which depends on his weight, the air temperature and whether he wishes to hit the water. The cord is attached to a bungy — a thick cable made up of millions of rubber strands — and the calculations are double-checked.

Men are slightly more trusting, while Japanese tourists prefer to jump feet first, Morton says.

There's no time for second thoughts as loud rock music blares in the background and the attendants chivy along first-time jumpers.

With that reassurance and the support of busloads of tourists, the jumper hobbles to the plank, takes a long look down at the chilly, swirling waters of the Kawarau River and receives the final countdown.

"Five, four, three, two, one" arms stretched and it's off with a dive worthy of Superman. All sense of direction is lost as the jumper hurtles toward the water from terrifying speed. Cliffs and faces become blurred and blood rushes to the head.

As the water becomes a threatening reality, the bungy reaches its full length and recoils almost to the jump-off point.

Several ever-diminishing bounces later, the jumper, thrilled with the sensation of defying gravity, is unceremoniously "de-bungied" and dumped into an awaiting dinghy.

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Salinas to seek free trade pact with U.S.

MEXICO CITY (Agencies) — President Carlos Salinas de Gortari accepted Senate recommendations Tuesday for a free trade agreement with the United States, but economists and advisers said it isn't likely to happen any time soon.

A U.S.-Canada free trade initiative proposed in 1985 wasn't signed until last year.

"The recommendations will be the framework in which... my administration will carry on Mexico's trade negotiations," Salinas told 55 senators at the presidential residence.

President George Bush, meanwhile in Washington, D.C., addressing a U.S. business group interested in promoting Latin American trade, said: "We, in the U.S. must do all we can to ensure the future of free markets in the Americas, because our nation has a stake in the economic health of this hemisphere."

Mexican commerce department adviser, Jaime Zabloudovsky, denied reports that a partial free trade agreement would be signed when Salinas and Bush meet June 10-12.

Salinas said he would study Senate recommendations with an eye toward integrating Mexico in the changing economic world.

"Mexico will not be left out of



Carlos Salinas de Gortari

mentations to Salinas.

The recommendations were based on hopes of permanent access to the U.S. market and lowering U.S. trade barriers on agricultural, textile and cement products, Silerio Esparza said.

He said the recommendations include a transition period to let Mexican industry change to survive an onslaught of American goods onto the Mexican domestic market.

Until recently high Mexican tariffs kept out many American goods or made them more expensive than similar Mexican products. Because of a lack of foreign competition, the prices of Mexican products were in some cases artificially high.

Egypt proposes new step toward unifying rates

CAIRO (R) — Egypt proposed Wednesday a major step toward unifying its multi-tiered currency exchange rate, a key International Monetary Fund (IMF) demand that could make it easier to detect the cost of its massive hidden subsidies to the poor.

The IMF wants exchange rate reform as part of negotiations to provide stand-by credits to Egypt, burdened with a total foreign debt of around \$50 billion.

Finance Minister Mohamed Al Razzaz told the People's Assembly (parliament) the government planned a sharp decrease in the "central bank" exchange rate used to value key commodity imports sold to the public.

The move, which the assembly must approve, would push down the pound as of July 1 to 2.00 to the dollar from the present 1.10, but leave it substantially below the black market rate of around 2.72.

Another rate, the fluctuating commercial bank rate now around 2.65 pounds, is used by tourists and for most private sector transactions.

The exchange rate proposal was submitted to the assembly as part of the budget for new financial year that begins on July 1. Western diplomats said it was unlikely to be changed.

Razzaz said the proposal was a step toward unifying Egypt's exchange rates in the course of economic reform.

Western economists said a single unified rate would expose an expensive concealed subsidy, the government provided for basic commodities, especially imported wheat.

Under the current system, important exports such as oil, cotton and Suez Canal revenue are denominated at the central bank rate. The government then applies these revenues to import commodities at the same artificial rate for resale to the public.

The rate thus understates the value of important exports and the cost of key imports, the IMF argues that any subsidies should be paid directly through the budget.

EC tells Renault to repay \$1 billion

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Community (EC) Commission Tuesday ordered Renault, the French automobile maker, to repay 6 billion francs (\$1.07 billion) it received in government aid two years ago. EC competition Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan said the decision followed a compromise with the French government under which Renault must repay 3.5 billion francs (\$624 million) immediately.

The remainder must be repaid as a long-term debt and Renault also can get no more capital from the French government until next year.

Had the French government refused, Sir Leon told reporters, it would have faced legal action over a repayment of 8.4 billion francs (\$1.5 billion), Sir Leon said.

He defended the settlement as fair. "I'm not interested in making people suffer. I'm interested in being fair," he said.

He added the compromise was tough enough to discourage future aid by governments to failing companies.

"As we approach 1992, the tendency toward state aid will increase, not diminish," he said, making it important for the commission to strictly enforce its competition rules.

"The commission has sent the right signal today," Sir Leon said of the compromise over Renault which he reached in a telephone conversation with French Prime Minister Michel Rocard earlier in the day.

The EC Commission and Renault have battled for months over how much of an alleged 12 billion francs (\$2.14 billion) in French state aid Renault should be required to pay.

In 1992, Renault is due to enter into a cross-shareholding pact with Swedish auto maker AB Volvo. Sir Leon said he did not see major difficulties with that arrangement.

Renault is fully owned by the French government and received the aid in the form of debt relief in 1988.

At the time, the EC agreed to waive its rules against state aids provided Renault cut its car output by 15 per cent and that of trucks by 30 per cent.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Wednesday, May 23, 1990 | | Central Bank official rates. | |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Buy | Sell | French franc | 119.0 119.7 |
| U.S. dollar | 668.0 672.0 | Japanese yen (for 100) | 441.6 444.2 |
| Pound Sterling | 1134.6 1141.4 | Dutch guilder | 356.2 358.3 |
| Deutsche mark | 402.8 404.0 | Swedish crown | 110.2 110.9 |
| Swiss franc | 473.1 475.9 | Italian lire (for 100) | 54.5 54.8 |
| | | Belgian franc (for 10) | 193.6 194.8 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| One Sterling | 1.6975/85 | U.S. dollar | |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.1850/60 | Canadian dollar | |
| | 1.6640/45 | Deutsche mark | |
| | 1.8700/10 | Dutch guilders | |
| | 1.4085/95 | Swiss francs | |
| | 34.27/32 | Belgian francs | |
| | 5.6010/60 | French francs | |
| | 1220/1221 | Italian lire | |
| | 151.15/25 | Japanese yen | |
| | 6.0490/0540 | Swedish crowns | |
| | 6.4230/80 | Norwegian crowns | |
| | 6.3440/90 | Danish crowns | |
| One ounce of gold | 375.65/376.05 | U.S. dollars | |

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

TOKYO — The yen's strength prompted buying of steel issues, shipbuilders and other domestic-demand-linked stocks. The Nikkei Index closed 238.21 up at 32,176.51.

SYDNEY — Shares closed up in a day dominated by trading in ANZ Bank after Treasurer Keating's rejection of its proposed merger with National Mutual Life and the release of interim earnings. The All Ordinaries Index gained 8.3 to 1473.7.

HONG KONG — Prices rallied on optimism that the United States would renew China's most favoured nation status. The Hang Seng Index rose 57.44 to 3,028.31.

SINGAPORE — Profit-taking after four straight days of hefty gains sent the Straits Times Industrial Index 5.64 points lower to 1,572.95.

BOMBAY — Timely pre-monsoon showers boosted the Bombay stock exchange index 10.18 points to 788.14.

FRANKFURT — Investors cautiously bought German stocks, lifting prices by some one per cent. The Dax Index was up 18.54 points at 1,831.80.

ZURICH — A stronger Swiss franc drew local investors back to a rising market. The SPI Index gained 8.8 points to 1,142.8.

PARIS — ELF jumped six francs to 732 on hopes of a major oil contract with the Soviet Union. The CAC-40 index lost 8.34 points to 2,123.34 on Wall Street's weak start.

LONDON — Early losses on Wall Street sent the FTSE Index down 23.9 points to 2,287.4.

NEW YORK — U.S. durable goods orders showed a steep drop. At 1643 GMT the Dow Jones Industrials were down 12.1 points to 2,840.13.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The New Moon in Gemini offers you a special benefit if you are working at your office, place of business or on the road. You can easily gain the good will of others.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) The daytime brings to light some very advantageous changes that you can make by adopting a new plan and the evening shows how to implement details correctly.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Look into every possible source for ways to make your hours more productive and then scope those that fit in with your own ambitious undertaking.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Join forces in deciding a mutual course with one of outside importance and then in the evening you can get into the actual organization required.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) This is the time to scan newspapers etc. for hints how best to do your activities better and outside contacts will be helpful in evening.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A day to decide how you can best use your talent and charm to be of service to those less fortunate and in the evening schedule efforts for the coming time.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Your home should be the center of your activity and be sure

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"We've got extra money this month. I sold your college diary for \$2 a page."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GIERT
EVIRT
DOCEED
LARPOR

FOR THAT GAMBLER, THIS WAS THE NEXT-THING TO HEAVEN.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A "SHOELACES" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRAZY MAKER LATEST SOUTHE
Answer: What loaters lack—SHOELACES

THE Daily Crossword

by Rena M. Campbell

ACROSS

- Great number
- Young horse
- Land measure
- Strawberry
- Rubbish
- Cheep rum
- Spiced stew
- Dispatch
- Whit
- Aviv
- Natural skill
- Fr. dance
- Ad. up
- Safekeeping
- Ballroom dance
- Milliam
- Leg bone
- A. Johnson
- Property
- Turner
- Yankee
- Poodle
- Fugly Bert
- Having jagged edges
- Metal refuse
- Turk. title
- Warm and cozy
- Parents to
- Sussex
- Makes as profit
- Follow orders
- Second-hand
- Ventured
- Accretion
- Moon bulky
- Samoan city
- And not
- Coat
- Stu. of old
- Movies
- Brainstorm
- Easy task
- Met. and of
- In case
- Large book
- Method: abbr.
- meleste

DOWN

- Violent disorders
- Mist and of a shoelace
- Elvis movie
- la-la
- Wading bird
- Where to dry hops
- WWII craft
- Bogart movie
- Growing old
- Paul Hogan movie
- Tribunal of prizes
- Actor Richard
- John Wayne movie
- Fish lure
- Slam visitor
- Bring up
- "Is — a dagger..."
- Shrapnel
- Scolds constantly
- Dash
- Shoe
- Wies sorry
- Stanch
- Endure
- 52 ft. river
- Hole makers
- Musical Charles
- Unsound

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Your going to need to deal with a lot of confusion that is in effect late this afternoon and this evening about the right way to finish a project that was begun in bygone days.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Look to your worldly interests and see what you can do to put them on a more sound basis during daytime and tonight avoid friends who can upset you.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You need to uncover some methods which will conform more to your desire to get ahead in character development, tonight be cautious in public activities.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Consider well whatever promises you have made as you start the day and apply yourself conscientiously to them, tonight be equally noting new ventures.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Steer clear of an associate who is pretty cold-blooded about looking at your mutual concerns and in the evening do whatever you have agreed to.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be practical in continuing with activities already put in motion during the day but tonight you delve into new interests but don't commit self to them yet.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Simple and inexpensive pleasures should be on your agenda

Colombia economy thrives despite drugs and violence

By Andrew Hurst

REUTERS

BOGOTA — Colombia, caught in a bloody tug-of-war between the government and powerful cocaine barons, has defied all odds to emerge as one of Latin America's most successful economies.

As the country heads towards a general election Sunday threatened by assassinations and bombs, financial analysts are at loss to explain just how the economy keeps going.

They are puzzled by Colombia's resilience in the face of violence from a left-wing guerrilla insurgency and murderous paramilitary groups along with drug barons who nine months ago declared war on the state because of its anti-drug drive.

"It's a very curious phenomenon and nobody knows quite how to explain it," an economist with an international agency said.

"The degree to which money from cocaine trafficking has contributed to Colombia's economic buoyancy is also hotly debated by analysts.

But now violence, which appears on occasions to threaten a complete collapse of law and

order, may finally be starting to take its toll on the economy, analysts said.

Colombia has been relatively unscathed by the debt crisis that brought many Latin American economies to their knees.

Instead, it enjoys a rate of growth that was the envy of its neighbours in the 1980s. But this now shows signs of faltering.

Gross domestic product (GDP), which measures output of goods and services, grew by 3.7 per cent last year, down from 3.7 per cent in 1988. Up until the mid-1980s, annual growth had rarely fallen below five per cent for two decades. Inflation, at around 25 per cent a year, is low by regional standards.

The liberal government of outgoing President Virgilio Barco has responded by embarking on a cautious programme of opening up the economy, one of the most protectionist in the region.

Protective import tariffs are gradually being lowered in an effort to prepare industry for fierce international competition.

Some analysts believe the country's economic stability has saved Colombia from collapsing into a state of near anarchy.

"Unlike in a country such as

Peru, the crisis in our political system has not coincided with an economic crisis," said Eduardo Pizarro, a prominent Colombian sociologist.

Three presidential hopefuls have been murdered in the last nine months, while eight car bombs have exploded in the past two months killing 69 people. A senator of the ruling Liberal Party, Federico Estrada Velez, was shot dead Monday.

Colombia was saved from the financial excesses of many other Latin American countries by the authorities' adherence to extremely cautious monetary management.

"The economy has traditionally been very conservatively managed," a diplomat said. "This goes back many years. You do not get big ups and downs."

Colombia has been one of the few nations in the region to avoid a confrontation with foreign creditors over its external debt, which now stands at \$16.35 billion.

The government, which has resisted calls from the opposition to reschedule the debt, argues that a showdown with foreign bankers would merely halt the inflow of credit from abroad.

Coffee has traditionally been the country's leading earner of foreign exchange and brought in \$1.48 billion in 1989, although revenue fell after the collapse of a coffee producers' pact last July.

Colombian flower-growers have also built up a thriving industry in recent years, selling a big chunk of the U.S. market for fresh flowers. "In some flowers they are supplying more than 50 per cent of total U.S. consumption," a U.S. official said.

Estimates vary widely as to the contribution of cocaine trafficking to the economy. Official statistics make no mention of cocaine money.

But government officials estimate that between one and two per cent of GDP is accounted for by the drugs trade while some private economists believe the figure could be as high as six per cent.

"The net foreign exchange benefit to Colombia from cocaine trafficking is up to \$1.5 billion," a U.S. official said.

Much of the money flows back into Colombia in the form of smuggled goods which are eagerly snapped up on the cheap by consumers accustomed to paying high prices for imports.

JOEL, no idea

Uruguay beats England

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Uruguay snapped England's 17-game unbeaten run with a 2-1 victory Tuesday in a World Cup warmup game at the home of English soccer.

A goal in each half by Santiago Ostolaza and Jose Perdomo sandwiched a spectacular strike for England by John Barnes as England lost for the first time since the 1988 European championships.

World Cup-bound Uruguay, which lost 1-0 non-qualifier Northern Ireland Friday, went ahead at 26 minutes when Ostolaza took advantage of an error by England's veteran goalie, 40-year-old Peter Shilton, who was playing his 117th game for his country.

Barnes tied it at 51 minutes, but Shilton was beaten again 10 minutes later by Perdomo off a free kick.

With the World Cup 17 days away, both teams played well. England, which had two penalty claims turned down, merited a tie from a polished showing in front of 38,751 of its own fans before departing for Italy.

Uruguay showed many aspects of skill, took its goals well and defended firmly against an England side which recently had tied with Italy and Brazil, the two favorites to win the World Cup.

England manager Bobby Robson again fielded Barnes as a front runner with Gary Lineker, and the move almost created a goal two minutes into the game.

Rightback Paul Parker curled

in a centre that eluded the Uruguayan defence and Barnes was unable to stretch his leg far enough to prod the ball into the net.

The Uruguayan team was slow, deliberate and patient in its buildup and its only goal attempts in the first quarter of the game were long-range shots from Perdomo that flew high and wide.

England also needed to be patient but looked composed and elegant in its forward moves.

On 23 minutes, Perdomo cleared two yards (metres) from his own goal-line after a corner by Paul Gascoigne was flicked toward the goal by Terry Butcher. And then England leftback Stuart Pearce unleashed a left-footed free kick that goalkeeper Edouardo Pereira blocked just inside the post after diving full length to his right.

But as England turned up the heat, it was scalded by a Uruguayan goal.

Enzo Francescoli neatly slipped the ball left to Antonio Alzamendi who centered quickly with the England defence retreating. England goalkeeper Shilton raced off his line and Ostolaza saw his chance to send a looping header over the goal into an empty net.

Uruguay should have gone further ahead on the half hour when Ruben Sosa set up a clear shooting chance for Alzamendi who tried to return the pass instead of firing towards goal.

England claimed a penalty just before halftime when Barnes was

pushed in the back by Francescoli as he leaped for a centering pass. The claim was waved away by Italian referee Pietro d'Elia, but a minute before the break Gascoigne had a free kick and powered the ball a yard (metre) too high from just outside the Uruguayan penalty area.

Six minutes after halftime, a stunning goal tied the game.

Gascoigne's crossfield pass put Pearce in the open down the left flank and the fullback's centre found Barnes on the edge of Uruguay's penalty area.

The Liverpool winger, top scorer with 28 goals in English league soccer last season, curled a left-footed shot around the stretching Pereira and inside the post.

As Uruguay pressed, a shot from Francescoli struck Gascoigne, and Shilton had to change direction quickly to save at the foot of the post.

But he was beaten in the 61st minute when Perdomo launched a powerful left-footed free kick that brushed his fingertips but flew into the net from 30 yards (metres). "Wembley is the temple of soccer," Uruguay coach Oscar Washington Tabarez said. "It is a great inspiration to play in this stadium. After we lost to Northern Ireland, it was very difficult to come here and play our last game before the World Cup. We knew England would come at us with speed and an air game. But we managed to neutralise it with our control and our possession."

Canseco slam powers A's over Toronto

TORONTO (AP) — Jose Canseco hit the first regular-season grand slam of his career, a tie-breaking shot onto the roof of a restaurant beyond the centre-field fence, to give Oakland its win over Toronto.

The sixth-inning blast off Frank Wilk (3-2) was the 15th homer of the year for Canseco, whose only other major league grand slam came against the Los Angeles Dodgers in the opening game of the 1988 world series.

Canseco also had an RBI single in the fourth.

Toronto got all its runs on two solo homers by Kelly Gruber and one each by Manny Lee and Junior Felix. Curt Young (2-1) allowed three runs in 5 1/3 innings for the win. Dennis Eckersley pitched the ninth for his 11th save.

In Milwaukee, Bill Spillers' pinch-hit single drove in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth and Mark Koudson pitched a seven-inning shutout as the Milwaukee Brewers edged the Seattle Mariners 3-2 Tuesday.

Glenn Braggs and Charlie O'Brien singled off Bill Swift (2-1) with one out in the ninth. Spillers, facing Keith Comstock, bounced a single over the head of first baseman Alvin Davis to score Braggs with the winning run.

Knudson (3-1) struck out three and walked one in his first complete game of the season. He is 3-0 lifetime against Seattle.

Paul Molitor drove in Milwaukee's first two runs with a second-inning double. Seattle scored in the third on Greg Briley's sacrifice fly and in the fourth on Ken Griffey Jr.'s 10th homer of the season.

In New York, Bob Geren snapped out of a 2-for-29 slump with a three-run homer, and the New York Yankees beat the Chicago White Sox in a game interrupted by an animated argument between Carlton Fisk and rookie Deion Sanders.

Before Sanders batted leading off the sixth, he and Fisk exchanged words at home and were separated by plate umpire John Hirschbeck.

Players from both benches and the bullpens streamed slowly onto the field and gathered near home plate while Fisk, 42, and Sanders, 22, exchanged words. No punches were thrown and the matter was settled within a minute. At one point, Sanders appeared to move his hat toward

Fisk but never got close.

Sammy Sosa led off the game with a home run off Dave Lapoint (3-3). Dave Righetti got his eighth save and Melido Perez (3-4) took the loss.

In Detroit, the Kansas City Royals ended a 14-game losing streak at Tiger stadium as their beleaguered bullpen escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth inning and stopped Detroit's seven-game winning string.

The Royals, who trailed 5-0 after two innings, rallied for an 8-6 lead when Danny Tartabull's two-run homer capped a five-run seventh inning. Kansas City made it 9-6 in the eighth on Frank White's RBI double.

Mark Davis, who has blown four of nine save opportunities, relieved to start the eighth, but Detroit scored on Tony Phillips' two-out double and a single by Alan Trammell.

Cecil Fielder and Lloyd Moseby led off the Detroit ninth with singles, finishing Davis. Jeff Montgomery, who had blown all four of his save tries this season, walked pinch hitter Dave Bergman to load the bases. Montgomery struck out pinch hitter Mark Salas and gave up an RBI grounder to Chet Lemon that made it 9-8 and put runners on second and third and got his first save by striking out Mike Heath.

Steve Farr (3-2) picked up the victory. Jack Morris (2-6) took the loss.

Alan Trammell and Lou Whitaker each drove in three runs for the Tigers and Gerald Perry had three RBIs for Kansas City.

In Baltimore, Joe Orsoulak's second home run of the game capped a six-run fifth inning that lifted the Baltimore Orioles over Minnesota, giving the Twins just their fifth loss in 19 games.

Orsoulak drove in a career-high four runs and Steve Finley got four hits for the Orioles. Mickey Tettleton homered and Cal Ripken ended an 0-for-18 slump with a two-run double.

Mark Williamson (3-1) relieved winless Jeff Ballard in the fourth and shut down the Twins on three hits before giving way to Joe Price in the eighth. Ballard, who led American League left-handers with 18 victories last season, was yanked after allowing five hits and four walks.

Orsoulak broke an 0-for-9 slide with a solo home run off Kevin Tapani (5-3) in the second. His three-run shot on reliever Juan Berenguer's first pitch put Baltimore ahead 9-2.

In Boston, Jack Dargher hit four consecutive singles and Ruben Sierra and Harold Baines ended mini-slumps in a three-run fourth inning, leading Texas over Boston.

The Rangers won for only the third time in 12 games. They have won just six of the last 21.

Graziano dies

NEW YORK (R) — Former world middleweight champion Rocky Graziano died in New York of heart and lung failure Tuesday, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Graziano, 68, had been in New York hospital since suffering a stroke on April 8.

Graziano won the middleweight crown at the age of 25 on July 16, 1947 in Chicago in the second of three legendary fights with Tony Zale.

He lost the title back to Zale on their third meeting nearly a year later.

But the ferocity of those fights and Graziano's transformation from street punk to world champion were too good for Hollywood to pass up and he was immortalized in the 1956 film "Somebody Up There Likes Me" with Paul Newman playing Graziano.

Graziano attempted to regain the middleweight crown in 1952, but was knocked out by Sugar Ray Robinson in the third round and retired later that year.

He had a professional record of 67-10-6 and was elected to the boxing Hall of Fame in 1971.

Following his retirement from boxing, Graziano, with his thick New York accent, became a familiar television personality. He made numerous commercials and was a regular on the talk show circuit.

Boxing historian and editor of Boxing Illustrated magazine, Bert Sugar, considers Graziano one of the most exciting fighters of all time.

"As a performer he always gave 150 per cent," Sugar said. Sugar spoke of Graziano's upbringing in poverty on Manhattan's lower east side, a notorious tough neighborhood.

"He came from an area of the city where both sides of the tracks were wrong and he saved himself through boxing."

Steinlager 2 wins Whitbread race

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) — The yacht Steinlager 2 was serenaded by jazz bands, fireworks and New Zealand's national anthem as it won the final leg of the 33,932-nautical-mile Whitbread Round the World Race Tuesday, completing its sweep of all six legs.

Skipper Peter Blake sprayed champagne over his 14 crewmen as Steinlager wrapped up a 35-hour victory in the eight-month odyssey marred by death and financial adversity.

The 83-foot (25-metre) Ketch completed its 3,837-nautical mile journey on the final leg from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in slightly more than 17 days — just 36 minutes ahead of another New Zealand yacht, Fisher and Paykel.

Steinlager won the overall race, which began Sept. 2 in Southampton, by 35 hours, 37 minutes, 52 seconds over Fisher and Paykel. The Swiss boat Merit finished third in the leg and third overall, more than two days behind Steinlager.

"At least, now, we can go home tonight — or probably tomorrow morning — and not have to worry about getting the boat ready for the next section of the race," Blake said.

Crew members were greeted by wives, children and friends as they stepped onto land after the last of 128 days at sea. They were greeted on the water by sirens from local ships and on shore by bands and flag-waving Kiwis.

Blake, 41, said his ship almost was knocked out of the race two weeks ago when a fitting sheared outside Fort Lauderdale. The crew patched up the damage and continued racing.

The other 19 yachts, which have survived encounters with whales, icebergs and stormy seas, were expected to arrive in Southampton within the next week.

Some also struggled to keep afloat financially during the quadrennial endeavour, estimated to cost \$10 million per yacht.

The only U.S. yacht entered in the race, a ship with an all-woman crew, had to drop out on the first day of competition because of a lack of funds. The other boat unable to complete the race was the Finnish vessel Martela, which capsized going around Cape Horn.

The Soviet yacht Fazisi, which is expected to reach port later this week, needed fundraisers in at least two ports to keep going. It also was struck by tragedy when its skipper, Alexei Gyschenko, wandered away from port in Punta Del Este, Uruguay, in October and was found two days later hanging from a tree.

The other death occurred at sea. Anthony Phillips of the British ship Creightons naturally was swept overboard and never regained consciousness after spending 47 minutes in the cold, stormy Atlantic Ocean in November.

The custom-built yachts sailed from Southampton to Punta Del Este, then went east to Australia and New Zealand. They continued east back to Punta Del Este in February and stopped in Fort Lauderdale before heading back to England.

The 300 sailors slept in four-hour shifts and ate freeze-dried meals while battling 50-foot (15-metre) waves and icebergs. Built for speed, the ships provided few luxuries.

Florence hooligans force Italy to train under guard

ROME (R) — Armed police and armoured cars are protecting Italy's World Cup squad after their training sessions were repeatedly disrupted by violence and insults from soccer hooligans in Florence.

Police said Wednesday a Molotov cocktail had been found after rioting by about 50 fans outside Italy's Coverciano training camp in Florence Friday night.

National trainer Azzeglio Vicini sealed Coverciano to the public after hundreds of local Fiorentina fans jeered and insulted the players during training Saturday and Sunday.

Training has continued this week with riot police standing on the edge of the Coverciano pitch. Armoured cars and at least 300

police block approach roads and guard the camp.

Florence's hooligans are Italy's most notorious and their reputation contrasts sharply with the city's fame as a cradle of European civilisation.

The riot in Florence as well as outside Coverciano Friday after Fiorentina announced the world record \$13 million transfer of Italy midfielder Roberto Baggio to hated Juventus. At least 50 people were injured and 15 fans arrested.

Police baton charged and fired teargas to break up a crowd of about 1,000 supporters throwing bricks, flower pots, coins and bottles at the Fiorentina club building.

Florence hooligans were also linked to a string of racist attacks against black immigrants.

The problems at Coverciano have clearly badly disrupted Italy's preparations for the World Cup.

After closing Coverciano — the first time this has happened to the national squad for 80 years — a badly shaken Vicini said: "What has the national team got to do with the fans' problems? What do they want from us?"

He added later: "They say playing at home has many advantages but we have yet to see them... Italy has already pocketed one world title, for foolishness and stupidity."

Officials said the team would be heavily escorted by police and helicopters when they emerged from the camp to play World Cup warm-ups against Greece and French club Cannes in the nearby cities of Perugia and Arezzo.

Six U.S. cities want to stage '94 World Cup final

NEW YORK (R) — Six U.S. cities have expressed an interest in staging the 1994 World Cup soccer final, the World Cup '94 organising committee said Tuesday.

Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, Washington D.C., Kansas City and Seattle have all told the committee that they would like to have the final in their city, Scott Letellier, president of the committee, said in a nationwide telephone conference call.

Letellier added that other cities might also decide to enter the competition to host the final by

the deadline for bids on December 10.

"Six cities have expressed an interest in staging the final," said Letellier, whose committee is supervising arrangements for the first World Cup to be held in the United States.

"An indication of the surging interest in the World Cup is that the number of communities that have contacted us has now risen to 27, whereas in 1989 it was just 15," he said.

He said that 26 of the cities would be sending delegations to Italy next month for this year's

World Cup, including the mayors of Kansas City, Dallas and Pasadena, California, the secretary of state of Florida and Tom Landry, the legendary coach of the Dallas Cowboys National Football League team who is a leading member of his city's World Cup committee.

Letellier told a questioner that the United States should have an easier time than Italy in preparing a playing surface up to World Cup standards.

He said most U.S. sites under consideration were used mostly for American football, which is played in the autumn, whereas Italy was using stadiums used continuously for league soccer.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
& TAMMAM HIRSH
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LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING

Neither vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ J 10 7
♥ 10 4 3
♦ A Q 9
♣ 8 6 5 3
WEST EAST
♠ Q 9 5 3 ♠ A 8 2
♥ Q 6 5 2 ♥ K 9 7
♦ 8 6 4 3 ♦ 7 5 2
♣ 2 ♣ K 9 7 4

SOUTH
♠ K 6 4
♥ A J 8
♦ K J 10
♣ A Q J 10

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠
It is not the very complicated hands that set the expert apart from the average player. It is his ability to find an extra chance, however slight, that proves his mettle.

The auction has a pretty point — North's one-diamond response. With no good four-card suit and no reason to want to declare no trump, North chose to make a waiting bid in his hardy three-card minor. As a result, the stronger hand became declarer and was shielded from the opening lead.

The average player would put up the jack from dummy at the first trick, losing to East's ace. On the spade return, he might play low just in case East held the queen as well, and then perform with the third trick with the king of spades. He would use his two diamond entries to dummy to take club finesse. Both would succeed but, when West showed out on the second club, eight tricks would be the limit of the hand.

A skilled declarer would be concerned about the possibility of a 4-1 club break. Since four club tricks are probably needed for the contract, he also would play the jack from dummy on the opening lead, but would jettison the king under East's ace! A heart switch or spade continuation would only help declarer, so let's suppose East shifts to a diamond. Declarer wins in dummy with the queen and takes the club finesse. When that wins, the table is entered with ace of diamonds and the club finesse is repeated.

Since West was unlikely to have led a low spade from four low cards in the suit, declarer can almost surely get to the board a third time with the ten of spades. That is the key entry to permit a third club finesse and bring home the game.

For information about Charles Goren's newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426.

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in
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Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

Nastassja Kinski
in
PASSION FLOWER HOTEL

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOUN

Saad Saleh/ Samir
Ghanem/ Younis
Shalabi
in
THE THREE IDIOTS

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Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

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HOT MOVES

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كلمة من الله

NATO ministers call for quick East-West pact to slash troops

BRUSSELS (AP) — NATO defence ministers Wednesday called for a quick East-West accord to slash troops, tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe to wipe out the chances of a surprise attack by the Soviet Union.

Western officials have complained in recent weeks of Soviet foot-dragging at the Vienna negotiations on a conventional arms agreement.

British Defence Secretary Tom King Tuesday raised the possibility that a deal would not be reached this year.

The defence chiefs, winding up two days of talks at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), said in a final statement that an accord, along with other security measures, "will virtually eliminate the possibility of a surprise attack on NATO as a whole by vastly superior conventional forces."

Negotiators for the 16 nations of NATO and the seven of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact are bargaining in Vienna to slash the numbers of troops, tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe.

Moscow and Washington already have settled on a plan to trim their forces to 195,000 for each side in Central Europe, with the United States retaining an

multinational force.

They confirmed they have scrapped a guideline, in effect since the late 1970s, calling for a 3 per cent annual increase in defence spending by each alliance nation.

The target, they said, was "no longer appropriate, although expenditure plans will continue to need to reflect particular national circumstances."

Many nations have failed in recent years to reach that goal. No deadline was set for military analysts to come up with a review of the military strategy.

They may be given more guidelines for the study at a London summit of alliance leaders in July. U.S. President George Bush earlier this month urged that the summit participants launch a "wide-ranging NATO strategy review for the transformed Europe of the 1990s."

The defence ministers work on the military components of NATO's strategy will fit into the overall review.

The alliance is under pressure to respond to the momentous changes in Eastern Europe by emphasising its role as a political organisation rather than a military pact.

NATO is battling some calls in Europe that it — and the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact — be scrapped

and replaced by an umbrella security organisation formed from the conference on security and cooperation in Europe, a 35-nation forum for discussions on human rights and other issues.

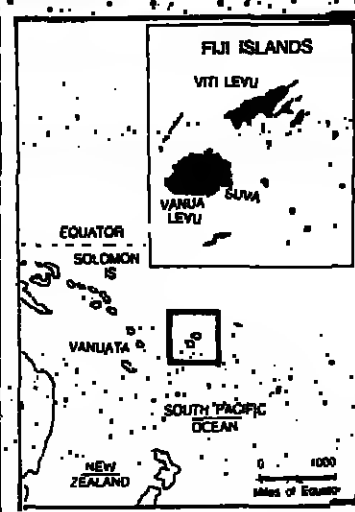
Officials said the defence study should look at a host of the West's long-held military practices, including maintaining a mix of conventional and nuclear weapons, training exercises and the "forward defence" policy.

"Forward defence" refers to the stationing of troops to defend the front line during an attack so that no territory is lost to invading forces. The border between East and West Germany, soon to be wiped out, has long been part of the front line.

Officials said they would like France, which is outside the alliance's joint military command, to take part in the studies.

Negotiators for the 16 nations of NATO and the seven of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact are bargaining in Vienna to slash the numbers of troops, tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe.

All 16 nations, except France, attend the meetings of the Defence Planning Committee. France is not a member of the joint military structure. Iceland, which has no armed forces, attends as an observer.



Fiji closes Indian embassy

SUVA (R) — India Wednesday denied Fiji's accusations that its embassy in the Indian capital, Suva, had meddled in the South Pacific island state's internal affairs.

Fiji ordered Indian Charge d'Affaires V.B. Sone Wednesday morning to close the embassy within 24 hours, and gave the embassy's Indian staff 14 days to leave.

Fiji, run by an interim government since two military coups in 1987 effectively disenfranchised the large ethnic Indian community, accused India of a series of "unfriendly and unwarranted" acts.

Sone, in charge since the expulsion of Ambassador Theetill Sreenivasan in November, told Reuters the expulsion order by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was "unfortunate and came as a surprise."

"The embassy of India categorically repudiates the allegation that it intervened in the internal affairs of Fiji," Sone said by telephone.

"It has effectively articulated the policies of the government of India, which have been to oppose racism in Fiji. India will stand by its commitment to the forces of democracy and multi-racialism in Fiji," he said.

Sone said he would comply with the orders, although he would be sad to leave. He added the Indian government would make a statement in parliament in New Delhi Thursday.

India has consistently accused Fiji of trying to introduce a racist constitution. On May 10, India's minister of state for external affairs said his government would mount an international campaign against racial discrimination in Fiji.

A draft constitution guaranteeing indigenous Fijians a majority of seats in a new 70-seat House of Representatives (lower house) is due to become law some time later this year.

The Fijian expulsion order, which criticised the campaign, also said India had decided to ban trade with Fiji and oppose Fiji's re-admission to the British Commonwealth.

Sreenivasan was also expelled for alleged interference in Fijian affairs. Ethnic Indians, descendants of sugar workers brought to the islands by the British last century, are slightly outnumbered by Fijians in the 727,000 population.

Major General Sitiveni Rabuka staged two military coups in 1987, the first being triggered by the success in a general election of the Indian-dominated coalition government of the late Timoci Bavadra.

The unelected interim government was set up after the second coup in September 1987 when Fiji was declared a republic.

Lithuanians told to brace for siege

MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis Wednesday encouraged residents to combat with "unity and stamina" the 5-week-old economic embargo meant to quell the republic's independence drive.

"We are poor but we'll not starve to death," Landsbergis said in a speech reported by the Lithuanian News Agency ELTA. "Our main weapon is unity and stamina."

The Kremlin's aim is to cause riots in Lithuania and make the republic surrender, he said. "But Lithuania will not capitulate. Our strategic task is to prepare the public so that we could survive as though we were in a surrounded fortress."

Landsbergis and other Baltic leaders have said they are willing to compromise but will not surrender their goal of seceding. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev insisted that Lithuania and its sister republics of Latvia and Estonia retreat from independence.

Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia are in varying stages of efforts to restore the independence they had before the Soviet Union forcibly annexed them 50 years ago. The Kremlin has declared the independence declarations illegal.

Gorbachev responded to Lithuania's March 11 independence declaration by cutting off oil, natural gas and key raw materials. Since energy supplies were cut off on April 18, factories have ground to a halt, traffic has thinned out and 19,000 people have been thrown out of work.

Soviet authorities have blocked hard currency transfers to all three Baltic republics, but otherwise have not used economic punishments against Latvia and Estonia, who have taken a more cautious approach to secession.

Non-Estonian workers were striking at 21 enterprises in Tallinn to protest the republic's secession drive. The Estonian government responded by trying

to block food shipments to the strikers, the Soviet newspaper Izvestia reported.

The strikes appeared to have little popular support. In Lithuania, Landsbergis said the blockade was "strangling" the republic. Radio Vilnius reported that over one quarter of all industry was idle at some point during the working day because of the shortage of energy or other supplies.

The report, monitored in London, cited official figures that 11,000 industrial and 8,000 agricultural workers were unemployed because of the blockade. So far, the sanctions have cost the republic 47 million rubles (\$75 million), the report said.

Leaders of the three Baltic republics issued a joint appeal Tuesday to the United States and Europe for diplomatic recognition and economic help for their independence-seeking territories.

In an apparent reference to the superpower summit later this month, they called on President George Bush to invite the Soviet Union to start talks about the republics' independence.

The appeal was issued at the end of a seminar on Baltic independence and signed by Estonia's Foreign Minister Lennart Meri, Latvian Vice President Dainis Irvans and Lithuanian Vice President Ceslovas Stankevicius.

They also appealed to the 35 countries in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) to "integrate the Baltic republics in their economic assistance programmes, so that they may soon become equal, democratic, healthy neighbours in a common European house."

The United States, Canada and all European countries except Albania take part in the CSCE process. Earlier, Lithuania's vice president said townspeople may be evacuated to the countryside to conserve energy and food, as the republic suffers "tremendous losses" from Moscow's economic sanctions.

Police nab suspect in gay killings

FRANKFURT (R) — Police hunting a serial killer of homosexuals and vagrants said they had arrested a man carrying a sledge hammer and a knife, who had told them he took orders "from the beyond."

A spokesman said the 50-year-old man was suspected of six murders and two attempted murders that have terrorised Frankfurt's gay and homeless communities since February. The city prosecutor's office said the suspect, an unemployed electrician who was not immediately named, was arrested after a 59-year-old homeless man was admitted to a hospital with severe head wounds.

The police spokesman said the suspect carried a plastic bag containing a blood-stained sledge hammer and a knife, both believed to be murder weapons. Police had no clear motive, but the suspect had said he was acting "on instructions from the beyond."

Korean student's funeral turned into anti-U.S. rally

KWANGJU, South Korea (AP) — Radical students shouting anti-government and anti-U.S. slogans marched through Kwangju Wednesday behind the coffin of a student activist heralded as a martyr and patriot.

"Drive out Yankees," students shouted. "Crush (President) Roh Tae-Won."

Riot police armed with clubs and shields were deployed around government offices and along major downtown streets to deter violence. Traffic on streets came to a stop as the procession passed.

About 3,000 radical students, many wearing traditional white Korean mourning clothes, chanted and hummed funeral dirges as they followed a hearse bearing the body of student activist Shin Jan-Ho, 21. Some waved long colourful funeral streamers printed with anti-government slogans.

Shin was one of 20,000 students from around the country who came to Kwangju to participate in anti-government protests over the weekend. He died of massive head injuries last Saturday after jumping off a speeding train to avoid police checkpoints at the train station.

Radicals claim police are responsible for the death and have vowed to retaliate. Shin was to be buried as a martyr at a cemetery outside Kwangju where victims of a 1980 civil uprising are buried.

Six students wearing white clothes and black headbands carried a giant Korean national flag at the head of the funeral procession. Others carried a large photograph of the dead student with a black border.

Hundreds of citizens watched from the sidewalks as the procession wound along city streets to Chosen and Chonnam Universities, where two funeral rites were held.

A traditional fortune teller performed a dance for repose of the soul at Chonnam University. Students frequently interrupted services with dissident songs and shouted slogans.

"The U.S. — real culprit of the Kwangju massacre — get out," students chanted. Radicals claim the United States condoned the suppression of the 1980 uprising against a martial law government, and anti-American sentiment is strong in Kwangju.

Radicals and dissidents have staged violent protests for a week in Kwangju to mark the 10th anniversary of an uprising that was the bloodiest in modern Korean history.

House voices strong disagreement with policy towards El Salvador

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House has voiced strong disagreement with current U.S. policy towards El Salvador in a largely symbolic vote to slap sharp restrictions on military aid to the Central American country.

But moments after Tuesday's 250-163 vote on that issue, the lawmakers reversed course and voted to kill the bill to which the aid curbs had been attached.

Despite the murkiness of the situation, it was apparent that a solid majority in the chamber believes continued human rights violations by the Salvadoran military dictate an end to what some have called a "blank check" policy.

"The American people and the American congress have been played for fools" by the military and by extremists on both the left and right in El Salvador, said Congressman Joe Moakley, a sponsor of the aid restrictions. "This must end and it must end now."

Church and labour groups that had supported the aid restrictions hailed Tuesday's vote as a significant victory, the widest margin in favour of curbs on Salvador aid in six years.

The White House sought to dilute the victory by lobbying hard against final passage of the

underlying bill, which would have provided authorisation to send new aid to new democratic governments in Panama and Nicaragua. Fanning the normal skepticism of lawmakers toward foreign aid spending, the administration succeeded and the bill was killed, 244 to 171.

House leaders said they had not decided whether to free a separate \$4-billion supplemental spending bill that includes 720 million in aid to Panama and Nicaragua. The bill, which President George Bush has urged, had been held up by Democrats to gain leverage on the Salvador issue.

But Democratic sources said it appeared likely that the aid money — along with more than \$3 billion in add-ons for domestic programmes wanted by the administration and individual lawmakers — would win approval before Congress leaves Friday for a 12-day recess.

House and Senate negotiators completed work on the \$4-billion measure Tuesday after agreeing to about \$2 billion in cuts from this year's Pentagon budget to pay for some of the new spending.

The bill includes \$300 million for Nicaragua's struggling new democratic government and \$420

million for Panama.

During debate on the aid restrictions Congressman Lee Hamilton noted that El Salvador's decade-long civil war has cost 70,000 lives, uprooted one-fourth of the country's population and left its economy in ruins, while the tiny country has swallowed \$4 billion in U.S. aid.

The amendment adopted by the House, sponsored by Moakley and Congressman John Murtha would have withheld of 50 per cent of El Salvador's \$85 million in annual military aid this year and in the 12 months beginning Oct. 1.

Under the legislation's terms, if the government failed to pursue peace talks with leftist rebels, the rest of the aid could be cut. If the rebels balked in peace efforts, the aid could be restored.

But Bush's congressional supporters argued that curbing military aid would amount to a reward to the rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, who they branded terrorists.

Opinion on Capitol Hill has turned increasingly against the Salvadoran military since the murders last Nov. 16 of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter. Nine soldiers have been charged in the murders.

U.N. faces dilemma over contra actions in Nicaragua

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The nearly-stalled disarmament of the contras in Nicaragua has put the United Nations in the unenviable position of seeing its troops guard and feed armed camps of combatants capable of provoking a civil war.

In a report to a closed-door session of the Security Council Tuesday, the usually-mild-mannered U.N. Secretary General spelled out the world body's dilemma in a scenario that evoked everyone's worst fears.

If the United Nations pulled out its forces, it could precipitate a crisis which "in the worst case" could lead to a resumption of the country's 10-year old civil war, Javier Perez de Cuellar said.

But unless the contras disarm quickly, the United Nations and the Organisation of American States, who supply food and medical supplies to the rebels, would be assisting them in setting up armed camps, he said.

Perez de Cuellar pointed out that an average of 100 contras a day had been demobilised whereas 500 to 600 would have to disarm daily if the 15,000 combatants were to disarm by June 10 as required in an agreement between the contras and the new government of President Violeta Chamorro.

In an apparent effort to draw concessions from the government, contra leaders since last Friday have been issuing conflicting statements on whether they would continue with the disarmament process.

Most of the estimated 15,000 rebels have gathered in security zones where they are to hand over their weapons to a Venezuelan infantry battalion, part of the U.N. observer group in Central America, known as ONUCA.

Many Quebecers view their province as a neglected spouse, with little choice but to walk out of a long, unsatisfying marriage. "The desire for sovereignty is still there, but the emotion isn't," said Pierre Fournier, a political scientist with the University of Quebec in Montreal.

"If Lithuania gets its independence 20 years down the road, they (the Lithuanians) will still want it, but they won't be so excited any more," he said.

There is none of the rage that fuelled the independence efforts of the early 1970s, when separatist radicals killed a Quebec labour minister, abducted the British trade commissioner in Montreal and planted letter bombs.

Not is there the economic self-doubt that made Quebecers hesitate and ultimately vote against "sovereignty-association" in the 1980 referendum held exactly 10 years ago last Sunday.

The emotional campaigns leading up to the referendum tore apart French Canadian families and wrecked friendships, as

Quebecers accused one another of betraying either their French Canadian heritage or the federalist ideals that built the Canadian confederation.

Since then, Quebecers have been unwittingly united by Ottawa's failure to make good on its promise that if Quebec stayed in the confederation, the government would satisfy some of the province's demands through the Meech Lake Accord.

The accord appears headed for failure as English Canada tinkers with it, adding last-minute changes to mollify the three of 10 provinces that refuse to ratify it in its present form.

Quebec's politicians meanwhile are mulling what kind of relationship they should establish with English Canada after the June 23 deadline for signing of the accord.

The province, home to most of the six million French Canadians, has acquired a sense of confidence after undergoing an entrepreneurial revolution in the mid-1980s that Quebec business leaders believe has left it econo-

Quebec calmly contemplates breakup of Canada

MONTREAL (R) — As Quebecers went about their business, grumbling about the cold weather, there was little to show that this was not just any day but a key moment in bringing the province closer to separating from Canada.

Most shrugged off the news that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's key man in Quebec had quit the cabinet the night before, and returned home to Quebec to protest last-minute tinkering with the troubled Meech Lake accord.

The accord is meant to give the French-speaking province powers to protect its distinct culture. To many Quebecers, Environment Minister Lucien Bouchard's resignation merely confirmed what they have believed all along — that English Canada does not care enough about them to embrace Quebec on its own terms.

Two other conservative members of parliament from Quebec have also quit the government in protest over the accord and will sit with Bouchard as independents. The country is watching to

see if others will follow suit. Many Quebecers view their province as a neglected spouse, with little choice but to walk out of a long, unsatisfying marriage.

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COLUMN

Smokers who quit on their own are 'more successful'

CHICAGO (R) — Cigarette smokers who quit on their own are nearly twice as successful at snuffing out the habit as those who join an organised programme to do it, researchers have said. In addition, those who stop smoking immediately have a better chance of ending the habit than those who try to taper off, said the study from the Department of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin. Researchers said a review of people who tried to stop smoking during a 10-year period found that 47.5 per cent who did it on their own were successful compared to only 23.6 per cent of those who joined a programme aimed at stopping.

Kremlin sends historic silver to London

LONDON (AP) — The Kremlin is sending historic English silver for exhibition in London, auctioneers Sotheby's said. The earliest silver pieces were given to Ivan the Terrible by English merchants encouraged to trade with Russia by Queen Elizabeth I who reigned 1558-1603. The silver is insured for £10 million (\$17 million) and will be on show Jan. 1-31 at Sotheby's headquarters on New Bond Street. The silver will return to Moscow when the show ends. The highlight of the exhibit will be a 1-metre high silver-gilt snow leopard made in London about 1600 to hold wine. The 23 other items include flagons, dishes, salt cellars and cups.

Police nab suspect in gay killings

FRANKFURT (R) — Police hunting a serial killer of homosexuals and vagrants said they had arrested a man carrying a sledge hammer and a knife, who had told them he took orders "from the beyond."

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Oxford scholar wins \$150,000 religious award

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky — Oxford University scholar E.D. Sanders was named the winner of the first \$150,000 Grawemeyer Award in religion for his book Jesus and Judaism, judges said. Sanders, an American who has been professor of Biblical exegesis or interpretation at Oxford since 1984, was chosen from 53 entrants for his 1985 book which judges said promoted better understanding between Judaism and Christianity by exploring the Jewish roots of Christianity. "Dr. Sanders...explores a simple but profound idea. Jesus was very much inside one of the major streams of Jewish thought of his day and he is not to be understood in opposition to Judaism," the awards panel said.

5,500 mentally retarded people sterilised in China

PEKING (AP) — China's first province to approve a mandatory sterilisation law for the mentally retarded performed 5,500 operations in the 14 months after the law took effect, an official report has said. Officials in the north-western province of Gansu said their goal was to sterilise most of Gansu's 260,000 mentally retarded residents by the end of next year, the People's Daily newspaper said. Since the law was enacted in January 1989, Gansu has set up a diagnostic network and required examination for all couples planning to marry. It also has sent teams out to villages with large numbers of mentally retarded to "do ideological work among the relatives and guardians." Arid, remote regions, has several large concentrations of mentally and physically handicapped people, due in part to inbreeding in isolated villages.

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